

THE TIMES

Ps to debate Grunwick as postmen face suspension

Postmen is to hold an emergency debate on the Grunwick dispute. The decision postmen defied a Post Office warning would be suspended if they continued to handle the company's mail, strike intensified their action, and the discussed further legal action.

,000 may join in union protest day

Tender Grunwick dispute fresh confrontation to be held in the today. It was yesterday as the discussed further postal staff black-mail were told to isolate the organizers promised to take part; with engineering and working workers.

Other steps being taken include proposals by members of the National Union of Bank Employees to freeze Grunwick's account with the Midland Bank.

Mr Booth, Secretary for Employment, Grantham, general of the Association of Executive, Clerical Staff (Apec), after dismissed as any independent the dispute. Other were discussed.

also saw Mr Tom Ward, secretary of Post Office those members at north-west London told by the Post they face suspension unless they Grunwick's mail whose illegal action defiance of their ultimatum pinned up in their office yesterday. The said that 64 bags by Grunwick at on June 15 had not and 150 items of delivery.

The ultimatum had been David Dudd, section membership, and the instruction ignored, which relies on mail order film business agreed seek that the black-mail some effect, although was getting

and ministers are the instruction to a postal strike he London district union has already black-mail to the pite an instruction executive that such be illegal and dice the union's as given the right son said there of declaring official. Their union's funds into

a new union on Grunwick's Mr Hill, the Yorkshire who was arrested at line last week, he TUC general ready to instruct the plant.

Parliamentary report; page 8 Leading article, letters, page 17

Somali S Kenya

respondent
28
ya Governmented a major inc-Somali border, in s of 3,000 regular overran a Kenyan killed six police-died there, and their four. Security forces killed autentant and six wounded 35 more, statement said. The place at Ramu, north-east Kenya, with the Somali

Government has delegation at the meeting of African Unity raises the matter, make any measure repulse aggression, for the Somali rent.

is a long-standing Northern Frontier Kenya. Somali there as they do aden region of

Four soldiers hit by gunmen

Four soldiers were injured, two seriously, when gunmen opened fire on an Army lorry in the Republican Falls Road district of Belfast last night (Christopher Walker writes). They were members of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling, which had begun its four-month tour of duty in Northern Ireland only on Tuesday. The ambush happened as a four-ton Army truck and a Land-Rover were driving in convoy.

Source reopened, page 2
First creation, page 4

Breach of privilege
The House of Commons should be given power to fine those guilty of a breach of privilege, according to a report published by the Committee of Privileges. It recommends ending the right of the Commons to imprison MPs and others who commit a breach of privilege.

Hijacker arrested

A Lebanese was arrested in Doha, Qatar, yesterday after hijacking a Gulf Air VC10 on a flight from Heathrow. He said that he wanted to draw Arab attention to the situation in southern Lebanon. The 55 passengers and nine crew on board were freed unharmed.

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Clockwise : Mr Thurn, Mr Callaghan, Mr Cosgrave, Herr Schmidt, M Giscard d'Estaing, Mr Joergenssen, Mr Tindemans, Mr den Uyl, Mr Jenkins.

EEC heads recognize need of Palestinians for homeland

By David Spanier and Michael Heseltine
A new policy towards the Middle East was agreed by the EEC heads of government last night after long discussions during the first day of their summit meeting at 10 Downing Street.

Mr Callaghan and his colleagues moved a declaration speaking of the necessity of a homeland for the Palestinians which goes further than any previous Communiqué statement on this point. It also calls that the Palestinians should participate in negotia-

tions on the Middle East in an appropriate way.

The Communiqué declaration represents an important step forward, according to a French spokesman, in ensuring the continuity of the Nine's policy towards the Middle East. The European position, he added, was very close to that of the United States, who were informed of it in advance. Indeed, the declaration seems to have been ready some days ago.

Its key passage says that the Nine

have affirmed their belief that a solution to the conflict in the Middle East "will be possible only if the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to give effective expression to their national identity is translated into fact, which would take into account the need for a homeland for the Palestinian people".

The heads of government also declare: "In the context of an overall settlement Israel must be ready to recognize the legitimate rights of the

Palestinian people; equally the Arab side must be ready to recognize the right of Israel to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries."

Arab governments have been pressing the EEC to make clear its position in the light of the advent to power of the right-wing regime of Mr Menachem Begin. In their declaration, the Nine conclude that the peace negotiations must be resumed urgently, with the aim of agreeing and implementing a

Continued on page 5, col 6

Place for 'specialized' all-in schools planned

By Diana Gledhill
Education Correspondent

A radical departure from the ideal of a "pure" comprehensive school system is being planned by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Mrs Williams has made clear that once comprehensive education has had a chance to become fully and effectively established, she hopes there will be a place for specialized schools to which parents may choose to send their children in order to give them particularly good instruction in, say, the sciences or modern languages.

In a private letter to Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, dated March 2, 1977, Mrs Williams says: "I know that at present many authorities with comprehensive systems in operation are able to allow parents to select the schools they wish their children to attend—whether county schools or voluntary schools, denominational, single sex or mixed."

Comprehensive warding, page 2



Wimbledon jubilation : The crowd rose to Virginia Wade after she reached the singles final yesterday at her sixteenth attempt. Christine Averill, who had been the favourite, paired with her foray into the tournament's centenary year was beaten by Susan Barker, 6-1, 6-1. Miss Wade, aged 31, is the first Briton to reach the final since Ann Jones in 1969.

Report, page 10

"When I knew the Queen was coming for the final I knew that it was time for me to be there", she said. All British finalists in the tournament's centenary year was beaten by Susan Barker, 6-1, 6-1. Miss Wade, aged 31, is the first Briton to reach the final since Ann Jones in 1969.

Report, page 10

Seato-fades away in Bangkok

The South East Asia Treaty Organization, once the military bulwark against communism in the region, winds up its affairs today when the flags of the six remaining members, the United States, Britain, the Philippines, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand, are lowered at the organization's deserted offices in Bangkok.

New Zealand's Foreign Minister, Dr Peter Sibley, said that the organization's fate was sealed when the US, Britain and Australia decided to withdraw from the organization.

South Africa's new opposition party, the New Republic Party, has been launched amid signs that it may die before the opening of Parliament in January. It was formed after the merger of the United Party and the Democratic Party, with the aim of creating a centrist opposition.

Peers by succession would cease to have a right to a seat although they would be eligible for nomination for life peerages in a proposed reform of the House of Lords by a working party of Labour peers. Instead the new House would consist of about 250 selected life peers or peers of first creation.

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HOME NEWS

Breach-of-privilege offenders should be fined, committee says

By David Wood
Political Editor

Offenders against the privileges of Parliament and MPs will in future face fines rather than imprisonment if a recommendation from the Committee of Privileges in a report published yesterday is adopted. It is a proposal that touches journalists, publicists, and all those who engage in political controversy.

The House of Commons has been increasingly reluctant in recent years to press and pursue complaints of contempt, partly out of a growing sense that MPs who are sharp-tongued themselves in a privileged House ought not to be unduly sensitive to criticism, but also partly because the penalty of imprisonment, virtually always incurred excessively. In 1967 the Committee of Privileges recommended legislation to increase fines for breaches of privilege. A move to implement it fell into disuse about 200 years ago. Yesterday's report stated:

"Your committee emphasize that they expect such occasions for imposing fines to be extremely rare, but they are convinced that the power to impose fines in the name of the royal prerogative of the House is to retain its credibility. If there were a power to fine, your committee consider that the power to imprison should

cease. They believe that the House would nowadays be extremely reluctant to impose a sentence of imprisonment for an offence of contempt."

As a sanction against the non-payment of fines, imprisonment by the House could be replaced, it is suggested, by the treatment of fines as judgment debts, to be collected through the machinery of the courts.

The Commons motion to impose a fine would originate with the Leader of the House, and would be unamendable. If it is defeated, other substantive motions could be taken, changing the amount of the fine, admonishing the offender, or imposing no fine at all.

Another recommendation is that "proceedings in Parliament", crucial to questions of contempt, should be defined by statute for the purpose of absolute privilege in defamation cases; and the mode and extent of publication should be reckoned in considering complaints. The Soaker could also take into account whether a remedy at law existed, although the existence of such a remedy should not exclude a complaint.

Lord Shawcross said: "The Third Report from the Committee of Privileges: Recommendations of the Select Committee on Parliamentary Privilege (Stationery Office, £1.10)."

Comprehensive education danger feared

There was a serious danger that genuine comprehensive education would never be achieved unless the Government took immediate and radical measures to secure the promised reform, a pressure group of parents and teachers in comprehensive schools said yesterday.

It was said that a comprehensive system was now all but established, a joint committee of the Campaign for Comprehensive Education and of the Programme for Reform in Secondary Education told a press conference in London. But it was clear that comprehensive education was still far from established in many areas.

Fewer than a third of the 97 local authorities in England were as yet fully reorganized. A further third could be reorganized in the next two years, "but only if nothing prevents plans from being implemented". The last third would not be reorganized unless the Government took active steps, the committee says in a statement entitled "Comprehensive education—our last chance?"

MPs to receive increase of £4 a week

By Our Political Reporter

An increase of £1 a week for ministers and backbenchers under phase two of the pay policy was announced yesterday by Mr Foot, Leader of the Commons.

Some backbenchers will now receive £6,270 a year. Others with outside interests will receive £5,938 because they agreed to forgo the £6 phase one increase as their total earnings, like those of ministers, exceed £8,500 a year.

For the Prime Minister, for example, who is paid £20,000 a year plus a £3,000 parliamentary allowance, the increase amounts to less than 1 per cent.

Mr Foot said the Government had been unable, because of pay policy, to determine the future basis of MPs' pay. The Top Salaries Review Body recommended in 1975 that it should be reviewed every two years.

MPs allowances are also to be increased by 5 per cent to £3,687.

Journalists' ballot, page 3



BRITAIN IS SOUTH AFRICA'S MOST IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER.

Here's what we're doing our end to help British importers and investors.

Britain is still South Africa's most important market for her exports. British imports range from vital foodstuffs to essential raw materials.

And South Africa herself imports more than £600m of British goods every year. Britain in fact enjoys a healthy visible and invisible trade surplus with South Africa, helping redress her overall trade deficit.)

This traffic is vital to the economy of both countries, and is one of the chief reasons why South Africa has just completed a massive investment in the most modern containerisation facilities in the world. This new service has meant new ships, new docks, new port handling plant, new trucks, new rolling stock. Comparable investment has been made by Britain with new ships and containerisation facilities at Southampton.

Containerisation means faster freight handling, goods arriving in better condition, and less risk of pilferage. But if the economic savings of containerisation are to be enjoyed to the full those boxes have got to be full both ways.

We are here, at South Africa House, to give importers from South Africa, and potential investors in South Africa's ebullient economy, all the help we can.

We have always been a giant in the field of raw materials. This natural endowment is today linked with an industrial technology, and manufacturing resources which match any of the developed countries of Western Europe.

Capital investment in South Africa can be very rewarding as the expanding investments by many prominent world business leaders have proved.

Importers from South Africa know that delivery dates will be met, quality control will be stringent, and prices keen.

For more information, please contact:

The Minister (Commercial),

South African Embassy,

South Africa House, Trafalgar Square,

London WC2N 5DP. Tel 01-930-4488.



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Dispute over loyal message reopens sores

From Christopher Walker
Londonderry

A graphic reminder of the deep divisions existing in Ulster society was provided this week by the extraordinary incident of the silver jubilee telegram to the Queen that was sent and never will be sent.

The telegram, on behalf of Londonderry City Council, the second largest in Northern Ireland, should have arrived at Buckingham Palace yesterday. But the religious differences that have bedevilled attempts to resolve Ulster's troubles intervened.

As well as exacerbating traditional differences between the two political traditions, the

incident has provided a bitter foretaste of the difficulties that might arise when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit the province in August.

A motion to send the telegram was introduced at the council's monthly meeting on Tuesday by the deputy mayor, Mr Thomas Craig, one of the six Official Unionist members.

According to his resolution, the message should have read: "We, the loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen in Londonderry, wish to convey to Her Majesty our congratulations on the occasion of her silver jubilee, coupled with grateful thanks for all she has meant to her people over the past 25 years. We are sorry that she is not able to pay

a visit to our historic city, but we hope that Her Majesty's visit to Northern Ireland will be an enjoyable one."

The wording would scarcely have appeared controversial in any other part of Britain, but it proved too much for the majority Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party. A hasty adjournment was called to consider its suggestion that "we, the loyal subjects" should be changed to "we, the undersigned loyalists" council.

After considering the amendment, the "loyalists" refused to contemplate any change in their original draft, with the result that the resolution was defeated.

A visitor to our historic city, but we hope that Her Majesty's visit to Northern Ireland will be an enjoyable one."

Among those who voted against was Alderman Leonard Green, of the SDLP. "We represent a tradition that is not loyal to the Queen of England, so why should we pretend that we are?"

The telegram issue has caused an outcry among Protestant politicians throughout the province. Although Londonderry unionists plan to send their own message, old political sores have been reopened in a city that has recently escaped the worst excesses of inter-

munal hatred.

The "unofficial inquiry" sponsored by Prop, the prisoners' rights group, and chaired by Mr John Potts-Mills QC, blamed the Home Office for permitting at Hull prison "increasing harshness" of the regime and heightened incidence of solitary confinement" in the period immediately before the riot last summer. Danger signals, it says, were ignored. "There is no clear proof of the Home Office's responsibility for what happened than in refusal to act in the face of these warnings."

The inquiry concludes that Hull inmates were subjected to wilful brutality at the hands of prison officers after agreeing to surrender from their root demands.

The report says: "Prisoners were the victims of grave assault and of maltreatment, marked by degraded and inhuman conduct. Men had to run the gauntlet of scores of prison officers wielding riot sticks, chair legs and other implements; were knocked to the ground and then beaten by groups of prison officers, and were repeatedly assaulted when alone in their cells."

The inquiry based its investigation on 26 written depositions from prisoners, as well as verbal evidence from other parties. It rejects the possibility of collaboration between inmates in their smuggling accounts of the riot, because all were transferred and placed in solitary confinement immediately after the riot.

Examining wider issues of prison policy, the inquiry expresses concern about evidence of the use of drugs as "control" machinery" in prisons. "It appears that strong tranquillizers are being administered to men who are in perfect health and have no need for medication," it says.

"There is a danger of the doctor becoming the most feared man in the prison."

As a member of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (the CPESC) who was expelled as prospective Labour candidate for North Norfolk, North, for his critical views on nationalization, Labour's ambivalent attitude to the EEC and trade unions, Mr Steel has a doubtful champion.

Mr Phillips argues for a realignment of parties, and may win over some former Labour supporters, worried about trade union militancy, to replace Liberal voters who "desert to the Conservatives".

His position is very different from Liberal candidates in recent contests. It is the first of the 15 by-elections of the present Parliament where in 1974 (at both elections) the Liberal came second, pushing Labour into third place. In Saffron Walden they can at least claim to be the main challenger.

If Liberals in the constituency fall away because they feel out of sympathy with a party

working in harness with Labour, and now becoming associated in people's minds with militant trade unionists and the closest shop, Mr Phillips might find himself in third place.

In Mr Phillips, a solicitor, who was encouraged to enter politics by Mr Hugh Gaitskell and who was expelled as prospective Labour candidate for Norfolk, North, for his critical views on nationalization, Labour's ambivalent attitude to the EEC and trade unions, Mr Steel has a doubtful champion.

All the main party candidates are firm defenders of Britain's membership of the EEC, though conscious of complaints from local farmers about the way Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, has been handling negotiations.

That tie-up leaves the way for Mr Oliver Smedley, aged 66, a local man and a veteran campaigner for cheap food to stand with a bulldog for his mascot as "Your All-Party Anti-Common-Market Candidate". Mr Smedley stood at Saffron Walden for the Liberals in 1950 and later became vice-president of the party.

For Labour, Mr Benjamin Stowman, aged 28, who would be at home in the Manifesto Group rather than with the

tributaries, has to meet a lot of criticism. He campaigns steadily on the Government's achievements, while admiring the blemishes.

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Home Office accused of harshness at Hull jail

By Peter Godfrey

An indictment of the Home Office for harshness and secrecy in its prison policy is made in the findings of an independent, unofficial inquiry into the Hull prison riot published yesterday.

An internal Home Office inquiry, conducted by Mr Gordon Fowler, Chief Inspector of Prisons, is expected to be published in two weeks.

The "unofficial inquiry" sponsored by Prop, the prisoners' rights group, and chaired by Mr John Potts-Mills QC, blamed the Home Office for permitting at Hull prison "increasing harshness" of the regime and heightened incidence of solitary confinement" in the period immediately before the riot last summer.

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In brief

Sir A. Irvine to be ousted

Liverpool, Edge Hill, Labour Party was given authority by senior national officers yesterday to select a new candidate for the next general election to replace Sir Arthur Irvine, who has been an MP since 1947.

After months of dispute with Sir Arthur, who had a majority of 6,171 at the last election when the Liberals beat the Tories into second place, a Edge Hill had already decided that he should retire. Sir Arthur, who is 66, is a former Solicitor General.

Methodists' new laws

The Methodist Conference yesterday approved new laws under which ministers can be tried by church courts if charges of heresy and heresy are committed before the criminal courts, or an divorce can be investigated by church disciplinary committee.

Land-case trial

The jury in the Teddington Farm trial at Chelmsford Crown Court, Essex, is expected to resume today to consider its verdicts.

Playground drowning

Mr John Ferguson, aged 34 of Heath Hill Avenue, Beccles, Suffolk, was found drowned at a Brighton playground yesterday.

Man brought back

Stephen Patrick Raymon wanted the son of a warrant officer of the Royal Air Force, who was found dead at Heathrow airport, London, in June 1976, returned to Britain from Switzerland under police escort yesterday.

Rape law Bill

Mr Paul Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent South, has given notice that he will see the Bill in the House of Commons on July 19 to amend the rape law.

Fatal fall from swing

Mark Jennings, aged 13, Windsor Avenue, Keynsham, Avon, died yesterday after falling from a boisterous swing in a play area.

Archway about-turn

The London borough of Haringey has withdrawn its support for the Archway road widening scheme.

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Home Office
accused of
harshness at
Hull jail

ME NEWS
about cast
value
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Mr Evans
air Correspondent

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sentences, page 16
LEX.

Woman of the week

In the news: Custodian
fish honours system
rewarding career of
Stuart Milner-Barry



Sir Stuart Milner-Barry:
Wartime codebreaker.

Chambers, he "found a wife,
married her off" and lived
happily ever after," as he
cheerfully puts it. Apart from
a spell as establishment officer
to the Ministry of Health, he
stayed at the Treasury until he
reached the normal retiring age
of 60 in 1966.

Lord Heseltine, then Head of
the Home Civil Service, asked
him to stay on and take over
the smooth machine that underpins
the honours system, which
had been built up over many
years by Sir Robert Knox. Sir
Stuart has loved every minute
of it.

He looks every inch the part.
A tall, stately man of immense
natural dignity, he is the incarnation
of propriety.

The stresses to which the
honours system has been subjected
in recent years must have caused him great distress
but he is far too proper a civil
servant to talk about it. His
retirement at 70 has nothing to do
with the absurdities and excus-
ions stimulated by the honours
lists associated with Sir Harold
Wilson.

"One of my principal jobs
has been the protection of the
system," he says. "The pleasures
are very great. It's fascinating
to see so much of the history of people
in every walk of life."

Sir Stuart, waxes eloquent
about the beauty and uniqueness
of the British honours
system. He is a confirmed
monarchist, so the spontaneous
celebrations provided the perfect backdrop
for his departure. He is succeeded
by Mr Richard Sharp, an under-
secretary at the Treasury.

Ballot for leadership of divided union is crucial for journalists

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

cause the membership has been
pushed too far too quickly. As
a result there are constant ri-
mous of breakaway groups
being formed to get away from
the political dog-fighting. The
new general secretary will earn
his £20,000 a year in just trying
to keep the union intact.

The election, which is being
conducted by post by the Elect-
oral Reform Society, closes on
July 5, and the result should
be known a few days later. Of
the six candidates only one is
a left-winger. Journalists' Char-
ter, an extreme left-wing body,
decided not to field a candi-
date. He would have been
mauled.

The candidates, with their
views, are as follows:

Mr Kenneth Ashton, aged 51,
NUJ regional organizer, a
moderate.

The union's policy on post-entry
closed shops is the right one.
Where the members want them,
closed shops should be pursued.
We would be prepared to investigate
whether closed shops can be lawfully
set up, but I believe that a money
agreement stands a better chance
of success rather than relying on
an instrument of law. I am happy
to see that a closed shop should be a
post-entry arrangement.

I wish we could get to grips with
new technology as soon as possi-
ble. In conjunction with other
unions we drew up *Programme
Action*. But this was rejected
by the membership and eventually
packed up their rents and walked
away. There ought to have been
another attempt to bring out a
package that would have been
more acceptable.

Principals' pay is

shockingly low and I think the
industry can afford more. I link
this issue with new technology.
Where new technology is intro-
duced into the principals' field I
hope we would be able to use
this, with other unions, to improve that.

After stage two I hope that



Charles Harkness Stephen Turner Kenneth Ashton Michael Bowler Robert Norris Gordon McLean

we will be able to make some
much needed improvements.
Mr Michael Bowler, aged 34, a
feature writer with *The Star*,
Sheffield, a left-winger, closely
involved in a dispute recently at
Kingsway, the longest in the
union's history.

Mr Charles Harkness, aged 34,
general secretary of the
NUJ, politically inclined left of
centre; a moderate.

The general rates had down in
the national agreement for post-entry
closed shops are the right ones.
This has had an impact on the
quality of weekly newspapers and
on the level of benefits given to
new entrants.

Post-education is a key
thing for the union. The union
must devote more time to organiza-
tion, more aggressive and
determined action. Industrial
action would be used if necessary
as a last resort, but in many ways
it is a defeat if you have to take it.

Closed shops are a part of that
process. The union is not well
organized at the moment.

At least a quarter of the union
is allied to the provincial newspaper
field. The closed shop is not
a piece of political dogma: it
is a piece of practical trade union
organization.

I believe new technology can be
beneficial but it has to be looked
carefully to make sure there
is some benefit in the first place.

The switch from mechanical to
electronic methods of printing has
not yet achieved its full potentialities.
But in the north-east

to them, let alone the workers, it
has to be introduced in a way
that will not damage the prospects
of people who have invested their
lives in the industry.

Mr Gordon McLean, aged 49,
secretary of Central London
branch, a moderate:

I am 101 per cent in favour of
post-entry closed shops.

This has had an impact on the
quality of weekly newspapers and
on the level of benefits given to
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Mr Robert Norris, aged 37, a
regional organizer since 1970:

I have always believed in the 100
per cent post-entry closed shop.
The arguments about closed shops being a threat
to press freedom have not been
put forward by the free press.

At the moment the closed shop
is totally unrepresentative
of the wide body of union
membership. But how to devise
a constituent assembly that is
representative is a difficult task.

In my case, I believe the present
ADM is destructive to the main
ends and purposes of what the
union is trying to achieve.

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EUROPE

Party accord involves fian Communists Government policy

Victoria Clough
June 29—The government agreement with the Communists has been approved by five of the six which directly or indirectly support the present government. The Communist Party secretary, Enrico Berlinguer, the event as a "new start in Italian politics". Time should not be wasted, he said. The agreement consists of a document which future Government important domestic such as the economy, trade, and reform of universities and local government. Several points on parties have been agreed and which, it will be worked out. The agreement was approved by leaders of parties at a late-night meeting completed by a of experts today. None of them was happy with the ruling Christian the Communists. Republicans and socialists were all in tiny right-wing expressed serious and is putting its party executive element still has to be by the executive committee other five parties secretaries meet today to decide if it fits into parliamentary

During last night's meeting Signor Berlinguer raised once again his party's demand for a broadly-based government of "democratic unity", with themselves as members. Not unexpectedly, he was once again refused. But he said in a statement afterwards that this remained the party's objective and they would make sure their supporters were aware of it.

It is generally agreed that Signor Giulio Andreotti's minority Christian Democratic administration will continue in office for the time being.

One of the trickiest problems

still outstanding is over the

form of recognition to be

given to the agreement

and what guarantees will be

made for its implementation.

Signor Berlinguer is reported to want it signed by all parties but the Liberals refused to sign the same sheet of paper as the Communists. Another suggestion was for a parliamentary motion. But, it was objected, how could Parliament vote on a motion which contained differences of opinion?

Signor Andreotti, who has

hitherto been outside

negotiations, intervened

cautiously from the sideline

by suggesting fortnightly con-

sultations with the Government by members of the parties involved.

The agreement culminated

three months of slow and diffi-

cult negotiations. The process

was set in motion when the

Communists and Socialists

declared that they were no

longer prepared to support the

Government by abstaining in

Parliament without having a

say in official policies.

Alan leader meets Juan Carlos

Correspondent

June 29—Juan Carlos gave a recognition to the Catalan government, the Generalitat, he conferred here Josep Tarradellas, it arradellas, who has to return to Catalonia Spanish Government the principle of for his region, flew on Monday at the Señor Suárez, the latter, for talks about question.

Editorial staff at the newspaper suspect right-wing extremists in view of the rash of threats which they received over the past few weeks from rightists, annoyed at the newspaper's often flippant treatment of themes which are sacred to diehard Francoists.

Senor Miguel Angel Aguilar, the editor-in-chief, was being sued for defamation by a former Minister Senor Jose Antonio Girón, as a result of a magazine article in which Senor Aguilar reviewed Senor Girón's highly profraternal and dealings on the part of Senor Sol.

The Madrid provincial court yesterday upheld the politician's claim and ordered the journalist to pay £427 in damages, a fine of £214 and court costs.

Another Dicrto 16 journalist is expected soon to begin serving a 20-day prison sentence imposed by a court martial in Bilbao for "disrespect to the armed forces".

Herring ban extended by Britain

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

The British Government told the EEC's Council of Ministers it will impose a ban on herring fishing within Britain's 200-mile limits in the North Sea for the rest of the year.

Mr Bruce Milner, Secretary of State for Scotland, told the Commons yesterday that the Government is in touch with the Commission on continuing the present ban when it expires at the end of the month, in view of the failure of EEC ministers to come to an agreement acceptable to Britain.

The ban was being imposed

under the terms of the Hague

agreement and there was a legal obligation on Britain's EEC partners to abide by it, he said.

MP's warning: Mr Donald Stewart, Scottish Nationalist MP for Western Isles, said last night: "Information has been passed to me from a reliable source that the whole of the Dutch herring fleet will sail in a few days for the North Sea and Scottish fishing grounds."

Their intention to do so will probably have been communicated to the Danes and the Germans, so that the attack on the fish stocks will see them cleaned up within a week.

It is an outrage that alleged EEC partners should be destroying our herring stocks in this way. Danish industrial fishing is regarded with abhorrence and anger in Scottish ports."

Parliamentary report, page 8

Bijacker in joy ride

June 29—Police arrested an armed hijacker in an empty car for an empty drive to Hamburg. After making a tour of the city the hijacker ordered the driver to hand over his money and fled with it after a short struggle. Reuter

EEC summit notebook

Get-together in Downing Street without a crucial issue in sight

By Roger Berthoud

The London summit season is drawing to a rather weak close. The meeting of EEC heads of government, which began yesterday with luncheon at 10 Downing Street and ends today, promises to be the least dramatic of the four summits over which Mr Callaghan has benignly presided.

The economic and trade summit in May were not able for President Carter's debut abroad. The Commonwealth conference was of high human interest, offering the spectacle of 33 disparate leaders of that English-speaking family attacking such human problems as racism, oppression and starvation, if with no hope of solving them.

After these, the EEC summit seems a rather tamer, ho-hum affair, helpless in the face of the scourges of unemployment and inflation, and all too often seeming to create and exacerbate problems through its own existence.

This does not mean there was no tension at the Government's press conference off St James's yesterday. What's the latest news? journalists asked anxiously. They were of course referring to Wimbledon, which was being shown on three colour television sets.

When President Giscard suggested, in 1974 that these meetings should be institutionalized he saw them as an informal meeting point for a free exchange of views; as a last court of appeal to resolve recalcitrant problems;

surprised by the disengaging way in which he referred to the vagaries of American foreign policy, or by his listing in point after those London encounters. He evidently still feels that West Germany's discreet negotiations over exit permits for Germans in East Europe are a reminder of the domestic factors which help shape each member state's attitude to the EEC and international issues.

That is not basic to a problem for the EEC. But it could have its impact on EEC attitudes to the Belgrade review conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

If President Giscard d'Estrade threatened by next year's general election, he showed no signs as he stepped out of black Citroen CX 2300 outside No 10: elegant as ever with a smile for the photographers, he looked very much the serious political crisis.

Mr Joop den Uyl, the Dutch Prime Minister, has recently been confirmed in office, and is in buoyant form. So has Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Prime Minister, though he has his worries over opposition from his country's journalists. Mr Anker Jorgenson, the Danish Prime Minister, had the happy look yesterday of a politician whose popularity is rising.

The same may not be true of Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, but he is safe until next year's Land elections. The word from the German camp yesterday was that his rift with President Carter over the human rights issue was far from bridged. German correspondents were

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EEC chiefs stalled on nuclear site

Continued from page 1

comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the conflict".

Other subjects discussed by the heads of government included the siting of the EEC's ambitious thermonuclear fusion project, the situation in Africa, East-West relations, economic problems and the implications of the further enlargement of the Community.

No decision was reached on the question of the site for the fusion project which has been referred for further discussion to foreign ministers. The apparent failure to break the 18-month deadlock on this issue should well mean the final abandonment of the project.

The main obstacle to agreement is competition between the West Germans and the British to provide the site for the European Torus (JET) Britain considers that the Culham laboratory near Oxford is technically the best qualified for the job, while the Germans have been equally insistent in urging the claim of the Garching research centre, near Munich.

Reports that Herr Schmidt has made a link between the JET question and a quite different issue over the level of British contributions to the EEC budget could not be immediately confirmed. But it seemed unlikely that Mr Callaghan would be prepared to consider a trade-off of this kind.

Economic problems, focusing on the themes of growth, inflation and unemployment were also reviewed.

Need for a Palestinian 'homeland'

Text of EEC statement on Middle East

The following is the text of the statement on the Middle East issued after the meeting of EEC heads of government in London yesterday:

"At the present crucial stage in the Middle East, the Nine welcome all efforts now being made to bring to an end the tragic conflict there.

They emphasize the crucial interest which they see in early and successful negotiations towards a just and lasting peace. They call on all the parties concerned to agree urgently to participate in such negotiations in a constructive and realistic spirit; at the juncture, in particular, all parties should reaffirm statements or policies which could constitute an obstacle to the pursuit of peace.

The Nine set out on many occasions in the past, for example in their statements of November 6, 1973, September 28, 1975, and December 5, 1976, their view that a peace settlement should be based on Security Council resolutions 242, and 338, and on:

(i) the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;

(ii) the need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the conflict of 1967;

(iii) respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries;

(iv) recognition that in the establishment of a just and last-

ing peace account must be taken of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

It remains their firm view that all these aspects must be taken as a whole.

The Nine have affirmed their support of Israel's right to exist in the Middle East, and the possible role of the Palestinian people to give effective expression to its national identity is translated into the following words for all states:

"The Committee for the Palestinian People must participate in the negotiations for a comprehensive manner to world out a constitution between all the parties concerned."

In the context of an overall settlement Israel must be ready to make maximum concessions to the Palestinian people, and the Arab side must be ready to recognize the right of Israel to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries.

It is not through the acquisition of territory by force that the security of the states of the region can be assured; but it must be acknowledged that in order to pursue its objectives all the parties concerned will view to establishing truly peaceful relations.

The Nine believe that the peace negotiations, with the aim of securing and implementing a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the conflict. They remain ready to contribute to the search for a just and lasting solution, and in particular to consider participating in guaranteeing the framework of the United Nations.

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OVERSEAS

New opposition party launched by South African whites given little chance of political survival

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, June 29

South Africa's new white centre party, a merger of the once great United Party and the puny Democratic Party, which has not a single seat in Parliament, was launched here today amid distinct signs that it may not survive long enough to become the official opposition when Parliament resumes.

Even as Sir de Villiers Graaff, the United Party leader, was presiding over the last rites of his party at a Johannesburg ice rink last night, six more of its MPs resigned to further the process of self-immolation that has been killing off the party steadily for the past 20 years.

Mr Japie Basson, the leader of the group, said that, although he and his supporters had no intention of joining any existing political party they would cooperate with the anti-apartheid Progressive Reform Party to form a new "white" (enlightened) opposition.

Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the Progressive Reform Party, promised to work for a "united white opposition" and despatched a committee to be appointed within a few days to start negotiations with the Basson group.

As things stand, the United Party and Democratic Party coalition, called the New Republic Party, has 24 seats in Parliament and the Progressive Reform Party 12, excluding the six in the Basson group. Another six United Party rebels, who broke away recently to form a new South African Party on the right of the existing opposition groupings, make up the rest of the Opposition. The ruling National Party has 123 seats.

The New Republic Party is

likely to lose a further seat to the Progressive Reform Party in a pending by-election in Johannesburg, which means the PRP will need to control only six more to take over as the official parliamentary opposition.

Mr Theo Gerdener, leader of the Democratic Party and former Interior Minister in the Nationalist Government, fell heavily on the ice today at the congress here and had to be helped to his feet by his new United Party colleagues before he was able to tell 700 delegates: "We are going to submit to the world outside a political system where there will be no apartheid, no discrimination and no domination at all."

The motto of the New Reform Party would be: "Self rule for all," he said. It appeared the vast majority of homeland blacks favoured self-rule and the party would appoint a commission of inquiry to find out what the nine million non-homeland blacks wanted.

The Johannesburg Star, formerly a staunch supporter of the United Party and of Sir de Villiers Graaff, said in a leading article: "Sir de Villiers finds himself in partnership with Mr Theo Gerdener, leader of a raggle-taggle group which cannot be properly described as a party."

Mr Gerdener is so confused in his political thinking that he talks seriously of a "confederal federal system", a political concept which exists only in his own mind. His terminology and stated objectives, as far as they can be comprended, sound uncomfortably like apartheid ideology cloaked in more euphemistic terms."

The Star forecast that the New Republic Party was "likely

to waste away, its disheartened supporters drifting to the Nationalists or the PRP, leaving behind a group of disappointed politicians who meant well but missed their moment."

Sir de Villiers, who is leaving the leadership, told the congress: "What is needed is a party in the middle of the political spectrum, when that spectrum includes white, black and brown, so that moderate whites can talk to moderate blacks, while there are still moderate black, in the interests of a peaceful solution."

The new party's aims included elimination of discrimination and domination, the protection of group identity, joint decision-making on matters of common interest, and the working out of a new constitution in consultation with all communities.

The leader of the new party has not been named so far, but is expected to be Mr Radclyffe Cadman, Naval leader of the United Party and one of its most forceful parliamentarians. He has been the architect of schemes, such as Nasal's multi-racial consultative council and its plans for a multiracial metropolitan council for greater Durban.

A wealthy sugar farmer, he would be the first English-speaking leader of the Opposition since Sir Thomas Smartt of the Unionist Party, who held office from 1912 to 1921.

More important, he is already indicated that he is prepared to reopen the negotiations with the Progressive Reform Party which Sir de Villiers Graaff started earlier this year. His new party, he said, should be formed as "another step on the road to a broader opposition including other parties as well".

Hijack 'to draw Arab attention to Lebanon'

Doha, Qatar, June 29.—A Lebanese man, arrested here today after hijacking a Gulf Air VC10 airliner with 64 people on board, said he wanted to draw attention to the situation in Lebanon.

Samir Muhammad Hassan Sharara, aged 26, said by officials to be from southern Lebanon, said he believed his hijack was "the best way to attract the attention of Arabs who do not care enough about the deteriorating situation in southern Lebanon".

The area is the scene of fighting between Palestinians and the Lebanese left on one side, and the Lebanese right supported by Israel on the other.

Mr Sharara was arrested by Qatari security men after freeing unharmed the 55 passengers and nine crew members on board the airliner. The aircraft, on a flight from London to the Gulf states of Dubai and Oman, was hijacked after taking off from Dubai, where it had been boarded by Mr Sharara, armed with a silencer-equipped pistol and two hand grenades.

The aircraft has since flown on with its passengers to Muscat, Oman.

An official statement issued here said Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Qatar's Crown Prince and Defence Minister, went to the airport to supervise negotiations with the hijacker.

After Mr Sharara allowed the crew and passengers off the airliner a group of Qatari security officials to release more money to help such people to return to Rhodesia and so partly redress the emigration

Returning whites boost Rhodesian confidence

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, June 29

The Rhodesian Government is making a big play of the fact that, despite spiralling emigration figures, quite a few whites are returning to live in this country.

Recently published figures show that the average net loss a month is now 980 with 1,754 people having gone in May. This is more than any other month on record, and so far this year a total of 4,917 have left.

But Mr Elias Broomeberg, the Minister of Immigration, says his department is getting more letters daily from people who left for Britain and elsewhere, too, having become disillusioned, now believe that despite its problems, Rhodesia is still a worthwhile country in which to live.

He quoted a typical letter from a 24-year-old electrician from London who wrote to say that he was "very sad I left so much for so little".

Over the months there have been many reports in the local press of people returning from Britain or settling here from Europe, Australia and the United States. Over 400 emigrated here in May.

Those from Britain often cite the high cost of living, the socialist Government, falling educational standards, the power of the trade unions and the general indifferent attitude to life in modern Britain as their main reasons.

Delighted with such letters, Mr Broomeberg is urging Rhodesian officials to release more money to help such people to return to Rhodesia and so partly redress the emigration

trend. Under current rules immigrants are entitled to financial help only if they have been out of Rhodesia for three years.

Those who do return and prospective immigrants generally are taking a gamble unless they have guaranteed employment. Sanctions and the costly guerrilla war has hampered the economy considerably and the boom years of the early 1970s are but a pleasant memory. Many businesses have closed or are barely ticking over.

However, because there is such a high emigration rate the labour market can still absorb many whites, particularly technical and professional men.

A recent recruiting drive in the depressed South African market by one Salisbury firm brought in nearly 300 immigrants.

The private sector is also starting to condition itself to the advent of black rule, hoping that wherever their future political masters are going to be, they will be disciples of the free enterprise system which has seen Rhodesia develop the second most sophisticated economic infrastructure on the African continent, after South Africa.

The expectation is that, with settlements having been achieved and the right political climate evolved, the Rhodesian economy will surge ahead once again. Then there will be a tremendous demand for whites.

The Rhodesian Government today strongly denied allegations made by the Mozambique Government at the United Nations of incursions by Rhodesian security forces into

Mozambique. The expectation is that, with settlements having been achieved and the right political climate evolved, the Rhodesian economy will surge ahead once again. Then there will be a tremendous demand for whites.

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US tightening ban on chrome imports

From David Cross
Washington, June 29

The State Department today refused to comment on African allegations that Rhodesian chrome was coming illegally into the United States via Japan. But officials said that negotiations were already under way with industrialized countries like Japan to ensure that their exports to the United States continued to be honoured.

After Mr Sharara allowed the crew and passengers off the airliner a group of Qatari security officials to release more money to help such people to return to Rhodesia and so partly redress the emigration

sanctions. The matter would be discussed by foreign ministers of the OAU who begin a five-day meeting in Gabon this week, the spokesman added.

Over the years there have been many reports that Rhodesian chrome has entered the United States by way of such countries as Japan, West Germany and the Netherlands. This was permissible under American law between 1971 and last March when the so-called Byrd Amendment was in force.

But since March, when the amendment was repealed by Congress, President Carter has been going out of his way to ensure that the United States is in defiance of United Nations

embargoes from Rhodesia.

Spokesmen for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Libreville claimed yesterday that Japan was buying Rhodesian chrome and reexporting it to the United States. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the OAU allegation was groundless and must have been based on misunderstanding. Reuter.

Leading article, page 17

Earthquake, not volcano, may have hit Crete

Continued from page 1

eroded layer between deposits of volcanic ash. No such layer was found.

Excavations on Crete add additional evidence against the volcanic destruction theory. Deposits of volcanic ash are not found at the level corresponding to a date of 1450 BC.

It is possible that early researchers were misled by pumice stone found in human settlements of this period which could have been imported as implements.

New estimates of the size of the tidal wave produced by the collapse of the crater of the Institute of Mineralogy at the University of Münster and Wolfgang Schiering of the School of Classical Archaeology at the University of Münster.

By Nature-Times News Service. Source: Nature, 267, 819, June 30, 1977.

French Embassy sources have identified the French pair as M. François Caure, from Auxerre, and M. Georges Bibollet, a teacher from Dijon.

Mr Everingham is the Laos correspondent for several Western and Asian news organizations. —Reuter.

He added that the five detainees had been detained with Mr Everingham.

Asked whether they might be expelled, the British official said: "It seems fairly clear that Everingham and at least some of the others will be exchanged."

He added that the five detainees had been detained with Mr Everingham.

In the early 1970s Seato had all but dropped its military role, replacing it with economic development projects, health service schemes and advice on counter-insurgency.

In September, 1974, military planning for defence against external aggression was suspended. With the fall of Saigon, Laos and Cambodia in 1975, Seato was forced to re-examine its role once more, with radical results.

The original treaty declared that the eight founding members would cooperate within Seato to settle disputes by peaceful means, provide the area with economic development and establish a collective defence agreement against aggression.

In executing the provisions of the treaty, the United States stipulated that intervention against aggression should only apply to commercial aggression.

The treaty also designated Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam as areas for defence against aggression.

In the ensuing years the eight-party alliance conducted a number of joint military exercises in South-East Asia but the organization was never put to the test. Nor did it ever go to war. Essentially, Seato was founded because of the Korean war, based on fears that China would not honour the Geneva agreement after the fall of Dien Bien Phu.

Hammering one of the last nails into the coffin, President Marcos of the Philippines and Mr Kukrit Premjai, the former Prime Minister of Thailand, met in Manila in July, 1975, and declared that while the basic Manila pact of 1954 should remain in effect, the question of the security of South-East Asia will be a major topic during the coming summit meeting of the five in Kuala Lumpur.

Instead of the threat of external aggression, the five members of the new, realistic economic and social alliance of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines—should remain apprehensive over the future policy of the new communist regime.

Perhaps Seato's vague successor might take some shape when the five leaders of ASEAN meet in Kuala Lumpur in August to review economic and political developments in the area.

Although all five leaders of ASEAN are primarily charged with economic and social matters, there is little doubt that the question of the security of South-East Asia will be a major topic during the coming summit meeting of the five in Kuala Lumpur.

Tourou, June 29.—Chad and Libya clashed sharply in harvesting the natural riches of the region.

Meanwhile, Algeria once again found its adversaries in the western Sahara dispute.

The clash followed Chad's first official complaint lodged with an international body about the occupation. The area in question is round Azaz, where, according to some reports, there are uranium deposits.

Mr Wedad Abdellah Kamougue, the Chad Foreign Minister, told the meeting there had been fighting between Chad and Libya, and that the conflict had been difficult for him to convince the big investors that "we were credible and credit worthy".

He thought that Mr Peter Carter would be the winner. Sir Peter was a rare bird, indeed. He came back and told me before the election that he was not the first to meet him as President. Less known is the fact that in the crucial Florida primary last year, everyone predicted that Mr Carter would be the winner.

In the wake of the Downing Street business last month over Sir Peter's ways here, it is not surprising that his greatest disappointment is due to his replacement. Of course, he has been succeeded by the Administration and a Washington society bent on showing Mr Callahan that he was sorely mistaken to try having the Ramseythorn mess fixed.

Privately, Sir Peter is known to be more nettled with published suggestions that while he was good at "broad brush work", he was not so hot on political detail. The record is the reverse, if anything. Carter had his knowledge and sureness in keeping a sure track of the borrowing and underwriting in the Washington political woodwork have been well remarked and useful to him.

Sir Peter also boldly commented on Mrs Anne Armstrong, the former American Ambassador to Britain, that she might one day be President. Of all the American ladies he knew he did not think he had met another "who" I could see in the White House".

On the role of ambassador, he said he had spent most of his time defending Britain, asking

accords are still being held in isolation cells in Kiev awaiting trial. They are Mr Myroslav Matyrovych and Mr Mykola Matyrovych, both of whom were arrested in February.

The group was formed on November 9, 1976. Its main aim include acquitting the Ukrainian public with the Declaration of Human Rights, striving "to have the Ukraine, a sovereign European nation and member of the United Nations represented at its own conference in Geneva".

Richard Dawes, president of the group, said: "The trial is due to be announced tomorrow on Miss Jane Wright, who is 20; Mr George de Neef, aged 39; Holland; Miss Charlene Hodis, aged 23; from South Africa; and Mr Walter de Rin, aged 33, from Switzerland."

They were accused of spying and illegal entry into Somalia after Mr de Rin's yacht, the Julia II, ran aground last November near Hafun, in northern Somalia. They pleaded not guilty.

Our official team from Britain, Switzerland and Austria has been allowed to observe the trial as observers.

Fourteen witnesses have been admitted. Prosecution exhibits include cameras, binoculars and account books.

The trial, held in closed court, began last Saturday and sentences of death by firing squad could have been sought.

Leading article, page 17

Congress gives go-ahead for B1 bomber

Paris, June 29.—Two Soviet dissidents, members of the Helsinki monitoring committee, have gone on trial in conditions of near-secrecy in some of the Ukraine, districts

where the trial began yesterday. They are accused of plotting to overthrow the government and to establish a new government.

Government sources here said yesterday that the Soviet Union has already begun work on a new fighter designed to intercept the B1. But Congressmen backing the B1 said it could be modernized for service well into the next century against any Soviet air defence innovations.

A final decision on B1 development now rests with President Carter, who during his election campaign described it as a wasteful aircraft.

The Pentagon has already spent \$4,000m (£2,300m) on the project and the House of Representatives last night rejected, by 243 votes to 178, an amendment cutting off a further \$1,500m in funds for the aircraft.

They also said they did not think news of the Soviet developments would affect Mr Carter's decision on the B1, which he was to announce tomorrow.

Two other members of the Ukrainian group to promote implementation of the Helsinki accords, and promoting the free flow of information and

against the four if found guilty.

But at today's session the Attorney General, in a two-hour summing up, asked the court to impose a sentence of 23 years each. He also called the seized of the Julia II.

Mr Neville Chittick, a British archaeologist giving evidence in the trial, has been examined by the Arizon defence counsel, court said.

Fourteen witnesses have been

called. Prosecution exhibits

include cameras, binoculars

and account books.

Our official team from Britain, Switzerland and Austria has been allowed to observe

without fin

ERSEAS

rael likely to reject Carter demand for territorial concessions

Eric Marder

June 29

Mosheh Beigia seems to be the only man in Jerusalem who is not upset over the explicit American demand that Israel must be forced to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza as well as the Golan Heights and peace negotiations.

's new Prime Minister has given his comments on a policy to an express-shanks for a \$15m military arms offer and said that "everything is fine so long as the plan is based on 'formalism from without'."

American statement, read through the State Department, was less than what the Administration was any recent comments by Mr Dayan, his Minister, which were as meaning that would try to exclude from the West Bank a peace talks. Mr due to visit Washington on June 18 for talks with Carter.

officials here are more apprehensive. The American state, a one-sided by Washington for withdrawal on all exchange for something than a pledge of peace from the Arabs, I that by encouraging a further demands could damage of an agreement between the former Israeli Minister, said on television that the statement's "an unprecedented courtesy". He claimed United States position contrary to assurances made by Mr Carter in

Washington warning, thought here to carry dental stamp, has put a stamp of euphoria formation of the government. Apart from

the people.

credible centre party Australian politics

uglas Aitken

June 29

ing from a dull political in recent months has almost dazzling success. Australia's new, middle-of-the-road party, the Australian Democrats.

The most sceptical politicians are now that the party will be able to influence even win a seat in the Senate. Mr. Don Chipp, aged 52, from the Liberal Party, was predicted six to in the Senate which him the balance of the Upper House. Australian Democrats in the country by surprisingly Mr. Chipp.

Chipp, aged 52, from the Liberal Party, was predicted six to in the Senate which him the balance of the Upper House. Australian Democrats in the country by surprisingly Mr. Chipp.

His resignation speech made reference to those Australians who yearned for the emergence of a third political force, representing middle-of-the-road policies which would own no allegiance to outside pressure groups.

The support gained by the Australian Democrats before even formulating their platform clearly suggests that a large portion of the Australian electorate can identify with neither the Fraser "conservatism" nor the alleged "socialism" of the Australian Labour Party.

a progressive within the party, always displaying modern attitudes towards such issues as censorship, divorce and abortion, while firmly maintaining the endorsement of the capitalist ethic.

His record was distinguished. During the Gorton and McMahon administrations, he held three portfolios: Navy, tourist activities and customs. It was during the Whitlam years that Mr. Chipp began to fall seriously out of step with his party; and when he made it clear that he was against uranium mining and for Australia's becoming a republic, it was probably too much for Mr. Fraser.

Thus the only real surprise about Mr. Chipp's resignation was that it took so long in coming. Mr. Chipp cannot abide.

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iff and aides charged over jail death

June 29.—The Sheriff of his assistants in unity, Alabama, were yesterday by a federal on charge that they failed to allow a prisoner from jail and then lead from ambush.

oner, Louis Wallace, last October 12 as he from a hole cut in the second-floor wall of County jail. He was life sentence for first-degree and was being used because of his state prisons, was conference last Sheriff, Mr. Thomas, he was "shocked and believed" by the.

He said he was in at the time Mr. was shot. The action is simple. A criminal serving life sentence for first-degree

murder of a black man escaped. He was not attempting to escape, he had escaped. He was shot and killed because it is the sworn duty of every member of this office to protect the public.

The federal indictment alleged that Mr. Purvis and the other officers had plotted the ambush to put a stop to a series of escapes and attempted escape from the Mobile jail.

"It was part of the plan and purpose of the conspiracy that the conspirators would, without lawful authority, shoot from ambush one or more of the said inmates during a planned escape attempt which was to occur through a hole dug in the wall of the Mobile County jail, of which escape attempt the conspirators had prior knowledge.

"Some of the conspirators

Ottawa to give way in language dispute

From Our Correspondent Ottawa, June 29

The federal Government has served notice that it intends to avoid a collision with Quebec over the controversial issue of linguistic rights. In so doing, it may have antagonized large numbers of English-speaking residents of the predominantly French-speaking province.

A policy document tabled in the Commons recently, laid down the principle that Canadians possess the right to have their children educated in the official language of their choice—English or French. This freedom of choice, applicable throughout the country, was essential to the survival of Canada. But at the moment, said Mr John Roberts, the Secretary of State, in a statement on tabling the document, there is only one province where the principle can be freely translated into practice: Quebec.

In spite of his public optimism, Mr. Roberts must be aware that his Washington visit will result in the sharpest confrontation in the history of Israel-American relations.

His Likud Party is calling to power on a slogan of "courage to America" and with the sacred vow to maintain Israel's sovereignty over Judea and Samaria, the provinces forming the West Bank. It has been joined in a narrow coalition by religious groups some of whose leaders are even more militant.

Government officials

claiming that the appointment of Mr. Dayan as Foreign Minister is a demonstration of flexibility of Mr. Beigia. Close study of his record, however, hardly suggests that Mr. Dayan is likely to bring the Government's policy on the West Bank and Gaza within reach of Mr. Carter's conception of territorial concessions and the need for a Palestinian homeland. During the election he agreed to fight on the Labour Party ticket only on condition that a pledge was given not to surrender any part of the West Bank without further consultation, education is a provincial responsibility.)

Mr. Roberts then changed direction and talked about Quebec's famous Bill One, now before the Provincial Assembly, which will make French the one official language of Quebec and severely restrict admission to English-language schools.

He argued that Bill One reflects "apprehension" about the future security of the French language and culture of Quebec, and about the way the rest of Canada will be prepared to treat the French language.

The principle that Canadians have a right to have their children educated in the official language of their choice also recognizes that the people of Quebec might decide that circumstances there could require a determination that full freedom of choice should be deferred until present elements of insecurity for the French language and culture are removed or reduced.

In view of the considerable insecurity at the moment in Quebec concerning the preservation of French in that province, it is the responsibility of Canadians from all provinces to make the status of the French language more secure in Canada. But as long as the present insecurity persists, the Government agrees that the deferment of this principle may be necessary.

Mr. Roberts' statement could be read as a signal that the federal Government is leaning away from the idea of challenging the constitutional validity of Bill One in the courts after its expected passage later this summer. This is an option federal authorities have been

In some quarters, however, the statement was viewed as a betrayal of English-speaking Quebec parents struggling to preserve their right to choose the language of instruction for their children.

At a subsequent Commons sitting, Mr. Joe Clark, the Conservative Opposition leader, asked Mr. Trudeau, the Prime Minister, when it might be possible "to persist with the immediate implementation of the principle of free choice".

The Prime Minister replied that, in the other provinces, it will depend on how long it takes to provide the educational facilities for French-language minorities that Quebec's English-language minority has enjoyed for 50 years. In Quebec, it would depend on the psychology of those who feel threatened. "I, for one, do not think that the majority of Quebecers feel threatened with extinction," added the Prime Minister.

Following my racy revelations last week, discussion has galloped on to why more cosmetic companies with men's ranges in the stable do not sponsor more sportsmen/male sporting events. It was a good week for such observations, what with cricket and tennis on every small screen and doubtless some racing around somewhere.

Tennis I love and watch, so it was not hard for me to find a suitable male, in that game;

for the mature, beefcake image,

who more handsome than John Newcombe in those fetching

striped sleeves and chic woolly gilet? But the world of cricket I know nothing of, and it is quite by mistake, or rather pressing the wrong knob, that I find myself in a position to suggest three simply smashing men, all quite different in type (identification, or at any rate wishful thinking), is an inherent part of cosmetic purchase whether by women for men or by men for themselves.

If the blond, leonine aggressor is what you go for, then Tony Greig is a superb specimen—it goes without saying that everyone I pick is either the tops in his sport; we go only for quality on this page—but if you prefer the dark, dazzling modes sort who leaves the whole feminine section of the Sunningdale tennis club

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THE TIMES THURSDAY JUNE 30 1977

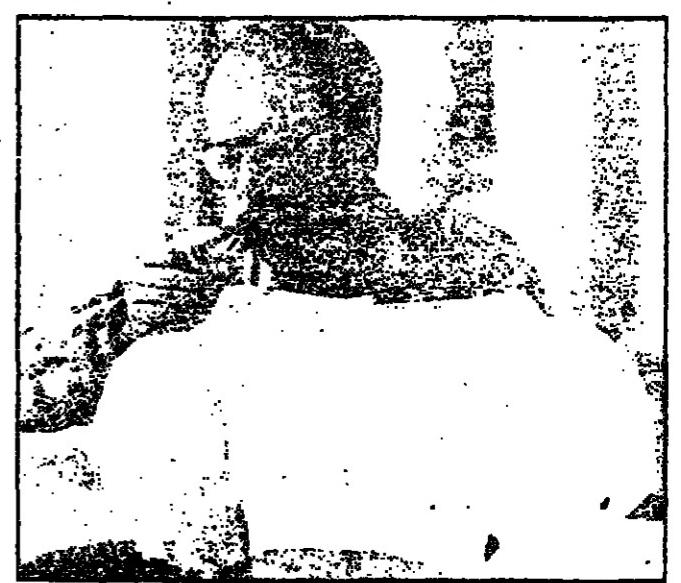
Fashion

by Prudence Glynn



The fabulous Adrian silhouette, panther hips and boxer shoulders, worn by Claudette Colbert in 'Without Reservations', circa 1946.

From the Hollywood Film Costume exhibition at the Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, on until July 23.



Edward Maeder, of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, at work on an early nineteenth-century lawn dress, probably English. The restoration of such clothes is a long and laborious process. To restore the whiteness, the dress was washed carefully in bleach, then rinsed 12 times. Maeder uses a neutral detergent for washing, and distilled water for rinsing. The separate skirt has elaborate cuffs and hem, each one of which has been lined with fibre like cotton wool and then dried to restore the shape and bounce of the design.

Experts in this, as in many other fields, do not advocate the methods of the late great Lady Mendl-Featherstonehaugh, who restored a lot of English tapestries and silk hangings.

The thread of history

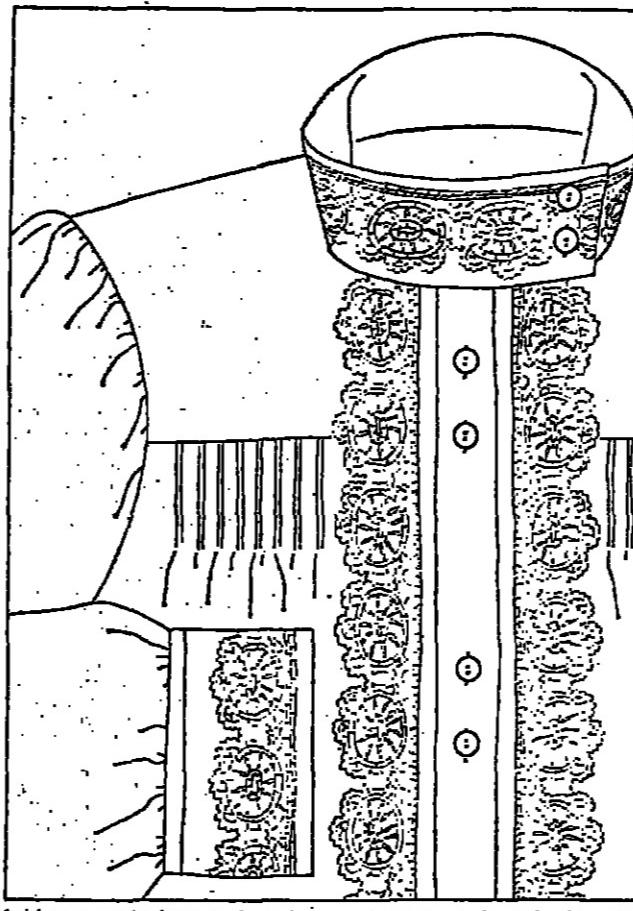
"If I'd mentioned the word

museum no one would have wanted to know," confided Ted Tinling about his efforts for the new Wimbledon acreage which bears just such a designation. "The moment I said, 'I want you to be in the Hall of Fame for the Golden Oldie,' they all flocked to cooperate."

Which just goes to show that in America the fear of the tomb hangs more heavily even than in England. At all, how can you qualify for a museum until you are dead, they reckon?

So the search for alternatives with less intimations of mortality is on. Conservation is a near one, and currently you can see a very neat exhibition, sponsored by Courtaulds, at the Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN. The exhibits come from the Textile Conservation Centre at Hampton Court.

In Manchester you can bathe in the reflected glow of the large screen, while the Whitworth shows Hollywood Film Costume. Or if by chance you are going to New York, try to see the Fashion Institute of Technology's fund raising exhibition of 200 years of dress. In Bob Riley, head of the research and conservation department, FIT has one of the greatest living experts in conservation, and he is backed by a superb library of dresses which range from head-embroidered gingham by Mainbocher (such a gaw, my dear) through the famous McCardle diaper bathing suit, via Glencore, Norell, Trigere, Givenchy, Dior, and a sensational 1860 sidesaddle riding outfit with chamois leather drawers to the breeches and a chamois leather jerkin to wear (heaven knows how) under the pouter-pigeon padded jacket, to the most perfect examples of Courteges. One day I shall get him to top up on his British designers, too.



A blouse made from antique lace or lawn or lawn by Mrs Helen Brown of The Clergy House, 69 Wimborne Crescent, Sheffield. This enterprising wife of the cloth combines the roles of clergy wife, scholar's mate, and schoolteacher with those of designer and "I rummage and fight with middle-aged ladies brandishing umbrellas at all the local jumble sales to find interesting unusual material." Each blouse hand made from bought pieces comes with its own lavender bag and costs £15-£18 according to style. Mrs Brown is just off to Turkey to seek out further scraps.



Jennifer Fitzgerald-Bond of the Textile Conservation Centre at Hampton Court

(the principal is Mrs Karen Finch, OBE) working on a pair of eighteenth-century shoes

ALLISON

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Line up 4,000 yeast cells and they'd measure about an inch. So, although they're all around us—in the air, on the ground, on fruit and leaves—you won't have spotted them!

Cells ideal for baking are specially developed. Most yeast perishes fast. But no: Allison Dried Baking Yeast. That's dried out so the cells can rest until mixed with warm water. It then reactivates, making any dough rise to the occasion.

But Allison Dried Baking Yeast deserves the best: Allison Stoneground 100% Wholemeal flour. The flour with all the health-giving elements including bran and wheat germ naturally present. Full directions on the pack. Get them together today!

High & Mighty Mayfair

Luxurious leisurewear for the big man! Just arrived: beautifully styled light-weight summer jacket by Kang of Sweden. 44-52 chest. £60.00.

High & Mighty

50 Cuzon Street Corner of Half Moon St London WI Tel: 01-403 2072

PS on scent

Following my racy revelations last week, discussion has galloped on to why more cosmetic companies with men's ranges in the stable do not sponsor more sportsmen/male sporting events.

It was a good week for such observations, what with cricket and tennis on every small screen and doubtless some racing around somewhere.

Tennis I love and watch, so it was not hard for me to find a suitable male, in that game;

for the mature, beefcake image,

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striped sleeves and chic woolly gilet? But the world of cricket I know nothing of, and it is quite by mistake, or rather pressing the wrong knob, that I find myself in a position to suggest three simply smashing men, all quite different in type (identification, or at any rate wishful thinking), is an inherent part of cosmetic purchase whether by women for men or by men for themselves.

If the blond, leonine aggressor is what you go for, then Tony Greig is a superb specimen—it goes without saying that everyone I pick is either the tops in his sport; we go only for quality on this page—but if you prefer the dark, dazzling modes sort who leaves the whole feminine section of the Sunningdale tennis club

the dance slogging from the wisteria-clad patio of daddy's country house (I know, P. G. Wode-

house is needed for this passage) then Woolmer is your man.

For those who adore nostalgic little blondes (the Prince of Wales, Leslie Howard), cricket also provides a gentleman called Underwood, who may for all I know be six foot four, but certainly fits the face. In racing, of course, the only man worth going for is Lester Piggott. You just know you could bring a smile to that sardonic face with a pat round the chops of Braggi, Aramis, or Brut. Come to think of it, did not Brylcreem feature in its advertisements Denis Compton, whose endearingly beggy "longs" were for me the highlight of the Gaumont British News of yesterday?

Incidentally, when Nation-wide was reliving highlights from Fred Perry's Wimbledon championship days, Fred was asked whether his long white flannels—*de rigueur* wear—did not hamper play, he let fall the gem that one had them made especially wide in the thigh and full in the seat "so that you can bend down quickly".

Perhaps that is the reason for the disgraceful, and alas'

only too typical behaviour of

the All England Club, towards

Bunny Austin, chronicled in a letter to The Times (June 28).

Bunny Austin was the first man

to wear shorts at Wimbledon, in

1932. I shall now promote the notion that it was not his

success.

"In America, no one talks to

the runner-up", Billie Jean King

told me. The trouble with

Britain seems to be that we are

more at ease with the loser

(provided he or she loses graciously) than with the naked

force of winners, in whatever game.

In the interests of all

society we ought surely to find a balance. Mine is to tell Mrs

You'll get more than you pay for at MAXWELL CROFT FURSALE LAST 3 DAYS

105-106 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0BT. Tel: 6296226

PARLIAMENT, June 29, 1977

New programme of measures to counter unacceptably high level of youth unemployment

House of Commons

Details of new programmes to help unemployed young people, to be in operation by September, 1978, and costing about £160m, and further measures to help to ease adult unemployment were outlined in a statement by Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment (Bathgate & Fife, Lab).

Mr Booth said that one of the most disturbing aspects of the current situation was the very large increase in youth unemployment which could have lasting effects on the personal development and outcome of young people.

Youth unemployment remains unacceptably high, the went on, and is likely to remain high for some time to come. This is of serious concern to the Government.

We have therefore decided that the Manpower Services Commission should be asked to operate a new programme of opportunities for unemployed young people on the lines of the proposals they put to us based on the excellent report of their working party.

In reaching this decision we have also taken into account the relevant report on the job creation programme of the Social Services and Employment Sub-Committee.

We shall want to ensure that

the Expenditure Committee and comments made by MPs in the debate on May 24.

The new programme will draw together and build on existing schemes for young people. It meets the criticism that existing provisions do not provide adequate training for young people by introducing a series of measures for young people in the 16 to 18 age group which will provide training with a combination of training and work experience.

These will be run to fit the needs of individuals, with the purpose of improving their prospects of obtaining a satisfactory permanent job at the earliest possible moment.

There will be a maximum of 130,000 places on the programme and opportunities being given to over 250,000 young people a year. This will dovetail the provision under the present scheme and corresponds to the assessment of the need made by the MSC.

The MSC and Government will review the size of the total programme annually against the prospect for youth unemployment. In drawing up the programme account has been taken of the possibility of assistance from the European Social Fund.

We shall want to ensure that

places go to those who most need them.

Summer school leavers will be considered for places from September, and it is our firm intention that no summer or Easter school leavers who remain unemployed following Easter should remain without the prospect of a place under the programme.

The Government will ensure that

the necessary resources are available for this purpose and the MSC will arrange the programme accordingly making such special provision as necessary.

About one-third of the young people who join the unemployment register leave it within one month. We shall not wish the programme to disrupt the normal flow of young people into permanent jobs.

We therefore intend that places

should go only to those young people who have been unemployed for at least six weeks and the emphasis will be on those who are the least qualified within the extra 330 posts already agreed, and a new allowance for clerical support in respect of all these posts. To ensure that the Careers Service can maintain high standards, we shall keep their staff requirements under close review as the programme develops.

The programme will be in full operation by September, 1978 and will cost about £150m a year when

the MSC to operate this rule with some flexibility for individual young people with no permanent job to go to areas of very high youth unemployment.

All young people on courses under the programme will be paid an allowance of £18 a week. This includes £2 for travel expenses with a discretion to pay more in exceptional circumstances.

The new programme will require increased provision for education and training and we shall be making resources available through the programme to meet the extra costs to the education service.

We shall also be providing more support from central funds for the Careers Service, which has made an excellent contribution against the odds, in view of the extra work which will fall on it.

Initially, we shall be providing an additional 170 unemployment specialist posts, on top of the extra 330 posts already agreed, and a new allowance for clerical support in respect of all these posts. To ensure that the Careers Service can maintain high standards, we shall keep their staff requirements under close review as the programme develops.

The programme will be in full operation by September, 1978 and will cost about £150m a year when

it is fully in operation; taking account of savings in unemployment benefit the net costs are about 60 per cent of the gross cost.

Preparations for the new programme will begin immediately. There will be a progressive build-up of places in training and work preparation courses from this coming September.

The work experience programme will continue. In the job creation programme and to ease the pressure on the employment subsidy since March 1, 1978, when it will end. To improve the provisions for young people in advance of the full implementation of the MSC programme I would urge employers to make greater use of this scheme.

On measures for adults, we have announced that this year we will be extending the job creation scheme to 15 to 24 year-olds.

The new arrangements will be extended to the 15 to 24 age group whose unemployment rate is well above the average, and to increasing assistance to those aged 25 and over who have been unemployed for over 12 months.

There has been a marked increase in the long-term unemployed, many of them heads of families, and the new STEP programme will provide many more temporary employment opportunities for young people.

Adults under the two new schemes will be paid the rate for 16 to 24 year-olds subject to a defined maximum.

The second would be known as the Special Temporary Employment Scheme, taking account of savings of over £100m a year.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science and the Secretaries of State for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be invited to the job creation programme to help to implement the new arrangements.

We have decided that the

education college required by the MSC will be built in the new STEP

programme to 25,000. The resources will be concentrated on localities with exceptionally severe unemployment problems.

Places will go to groups who have been particularly hard hit by the current recession. Priority will be given to maintaining the number of places under the job creation programme for the 15 to 24 age group whose unemployment rate is well above the average, and to increasing assistance to those aged 25 and over who have been unemployed for over 12 months.

The measure, I have announced today, reflects our determination to continue to mitigate the worst effects of high levels of unemployment, especially for young people at the beginning of their working lives.

The new programme of opportunities for young people represents a major step forward in tackling the problem of youth unemployment.

The first would provide 8,000 places for adults from the unemployment register who would be employed as supervisors and instructors in further education over three years above present projections by 1980-81.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science and the Secretaries of State for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will be invited to the job creation programme to help to implement the new arrangements.

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SPORT

Tennis

Miss Wade's game as dazzling as her dress

By Rex Bellamy

Tennis Correspondent

Virginia Wade has reached the Wimbledon women's singles final at the sixteenth attempt. In order to do so, she had to beat Christine Evert, twice champion in the past three years. But in mind the Queen's diamond Jubilee, the 150th anniversary year, and the 25th anniversary of the Queen's accession—and the Queen will be there tomorrow for the first time since 1962, when Miss Wade competed for the first time. So Miss Wade beat Miss Evert, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1, in an hour and 54 minutes.

"When I discovered the Queen was coming for the final, I knew that it was the time for me to be there. I think I have the will power and the guts to win this tournament, and that's what I intend to do. I want to show everyone that I can—and that my reputation for nerves is totally out of date. Today, I was so determined I didn't feel nervous for one point. I have always felt, particularly at Wimbledon, that there's a balance between determination and tension. If you're too determined, you're not emotional enough to forget the tennis."

It would have been perfect, of course, had Miss Wade's opponent in the final been Susan Barker, aged 21, and playing her fifth Wimbledon. But the first all-British final since 1951 will not happen because Miss Barker has been beaten 6-2, 6-4 in an hour and 44 minutes by Betty Stove, the only Dutch player ever to achieve such eminence in the game's greatest championships.

Miss Wade, aged 31, is the first British player to reach the final since Anne Jones in 1959. She should be encouraged by the fact that Mrs Jones, too, had reached an advanced stage in her career (she was 30) and that the same applied to the great British winner of 1955, Angela Mortimer. She was 29 when she won in 1955. In terms, the British seem to mature late. Something to do with the climate, no doubt.

Miss Wade should add the Wimbledon championship to the U.S. Open, the French and Australian titles she won between 1968 and 1972. It was Brinley who took the initiative in introducing open competition in 1968—and Miss Wade won the first such tournament at Bournemouth, before moving on to her greater triumph at Forest Hills. She is a patriot, a sense of occasion—and those qualities will suffice her resolute tomorrow should the need arise.

This will be the first time since 1971 that the final has lacked an American accent. The first thing one noticed, as Miss Wade bent to kiss my hand, was that she was very, very sprightly. But this was no sur, no trick of light. It was simply that glittering components had been built into her dress. But how right that turned out to be. Her seamstress was dazzling too.

Immediately it became clear that Miss Wade's comment was correct: "I could see it in her eye," Miss Evert said later. "I think Virginia wanted to win more than I did. I just wasn't as eager as usual. The thought of losing didn't bother me—it used to—but my game is unusual and if I'm not properly keyed up these girls can beat me." I peaked," so soon. My big challenge was to beat Billie Jean in grass. I couldn't get fired up for today's match. My play was patchy. I was not myself."

Virginia was she and her time and played a length. In the outcome, Virginia played more patiently than I did."

The sun was shining. The players cast shadows on the grass. All was a thrilling beauty. The women's game is always most vividly en-



Virginia Wade (top) surrounded by cameramen after her victory over Christine Evert and Susan Barker (above right) leaving the court with her conqueror Betty Stove at Wimbledon yesterday.

chancing on the faster surfaces and there could be few finer examples than this. The length they maintained was itself astonishing. The percentage of errors—mostly due to faulty timing—was extraordinarily high considering the bounding fury of the combat. Miss Evert was beginning to look like the head girl: smart, composed, disciplined. Her lips were set a little more firmly. She returned the ball with the fire that was in Miss Evert's hair. She was very, very positive. But she never flinched, never yielded an inch. She beat me, I think.

Would Miss Wade get excited and start shouting? Could Miss Evert's own strokes possibly remain so fragile? No, to both questions. Miss Wade did lose a little steam in the second set. She was not quite so positive. But she never flinched, never yielded an inch. She beat me, I think.

In that second set Miss Evert went to 3-1 and the sun was behind the clouds (as if John Ball was up there somewhere looking after the house). Miss Wade was up with a serve and a 10 points out of 13 to reach 3-3, and on her own service. But Miss Evert held her service for the set, finishing it with one of a series of booming forehands down the line (the assault to that corner must have taxed Miss Wade's energies to the limit).

Miss Wade got excited and briefly confounded. Was a brief burst of energy? Could Miss Evert's own strokes possibly remain so fragile? No, to both questions.

Miss Wade, emboldened by adversity, began to hit her drives with a full, free swing. She struck a length. Her first service became more dependable.

Between them, they now created a thrilling beauty. The women's game is always most vividly en-

two deuce games to lead 5-1. The crowd were noisy now; the dream was becoming tangible. Miss Wade served. Two points much point with either of the net cord. That was anti-climax enough, but whose was to follow? In the next rally, Miss Evert hit a cross-court forehand. The liner had halfed a hand, then withdrew it. Meanwhile, Miss Wade returned the ball with the fire that was in Miss Evert's hair. She was very, very positive. But she never flinched, never yielded an inch. She beat me, I think.

After all this, including Miss Barker achieved bad me a bonus. Her match with Miss Stove (eight inches taller, more than 30 heavier, and 11 years older in the ways of the world), was sometimes reminiscent of those famous old battles in which the smaller, faster British ships outmanoeuvred the larger, weightier. The analogy was apt because Miss Barker comes from the seafaring county of Devon. During the second set and much of the third, she peppered the flanks of the Dutch girl with a series of 10 points out of 13 to reach 3-3, and on her own service. But Miss Evert held her service for the set, finishing it with one of a series of booming forehands down the line (the assault to that corner must have taxed Miss Wade's energies to the limit).

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Rowing

British crews should take seven out of 13 events at Henley

By Jim Reardon

While Henley's principal event—the Great—will begin tomorrow, rowing promises to be a close contest. The Ladies' Thamee and Wyfold appear to be wide open. In the top half of the Thamee, Cox Gwent and Gwent, with part of the British national eight, look strong. It should be a British boat, along with British, Dartmouth, Royal London, University, who have been in two trips to go in the Grand Final.

Serious United States, Leander, Cambridge and Washington University are crews to watch in the bottom half of the draw. But this is a difficult event to forecast.

The Ridley 16-year-olds may embarrass Oxford's crew in the first two days of Henley. In the Ladies' the Ridley "B" boat, made up of four successive crews, including the European, world and Olympic medallists winners, Baileys and Hart (Leander) in the Double Sculls; Tim Crooks (Leander) in the Diamonds; after his early season victories over the world and Olympic champions in single sculls and Henley or Washington in the Single Sculls.

The other British favourites are the national eight, Leander-Thames Tradesmen in the Grand after six international wins on the "true" Roberts and Clark (Thames Tradesmen) in the Silver Goblets in the Strelitz Godwin after four successive wins. The national eight, last year's five-week participants in the European, world and Olympic medals winners, Baileys and Hart (Leander) in the Double Sculls; Tim Crooks (Leander) in the Diamonds; after his early season victories over the world and Olympic champions in single sculls and Henley or Washington in the Single Sculls.

With only one European crew from Belgium, Royal Regatta begins today with a programme of 74 races spread over seven days and a half hours ranging from one race of final standard, to a number of tonnage stakes. It should be a British boat, too, with domestic crews favoured for seven of the 13 trophies and, with strong chances in three more events. Great Britain already sent two up with the young London Rowing Club, Royal, and some Schools Schools and the Special Race Schools restricted to British schools.

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Inbridge lose stride after dismissal of Bell and Roebuck

Woodcock
respondent
Cambridge University
23 for seven against

having lost the toss, Cambridge when the match began yesterday, put in and except when batting, Cambridge taking charge.

"All too few people those who were saw that we were beaten an ass day, marked by slightly pleasant, slightly us cricket. I wondered fact that the two sides other than playing a

the Benson and

With Hignell gone, and then, in

know one another's

well and lack the

the grandstand balcony over

the uncertain start, Hignell played

with a rugged effectiveness that

must be the envy of those

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across the line at Marks and was

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NEW BOOKS

A high sense of moral purpose

The First Fabians
By Norman and
Jeanne MacKenzie
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.50)

Although long and packed with material, this book is not a history of the Fabian movement. The period when prominent Fabians sat in successive Labour Cabinets, and actually saw some of their schemes take physical form, or at least appear on the statute book, is dismissed briefly in an epilogue. The MacKenzies are primarily concerned with the intellectual, political and social climate which made the idea of Fabianism possible in the 1880s, and with the men and women who gave it birth and nourished it. By 1914, when a new world began, Fabianism was already a healthy and noisy adolescent with its own mouthpiece, the *New Statesman*, its own university, the LSE, its system of lectures and summer schools all over the country, and above all its pamphlets carrying the gospel of socialist socialism throughout Britain, and indeed the world. It is at this point when the movement reached maturity that the MacKenzies break off their tale.

It originally began, I imagine, as a tale of ideas, but it rapidly became a tale about people. The MacKenzies are consistent, and consistently entertaining. Annie Besant might shift, in rapid succession, from street-corner rabble-rousing, an armchair political philosopher, and then to founding a new religion which rejected political action in favour of moral reform; but she remained the same astonishing controversialist and demagogue, with a wonderful gift for words and arguments and for handsome men with foolish ideas. Shaw was equally volatile, and even when he finally settled down intellectually, in his late forties, it was only to anchor himself to what might be called a theory of paradox.

The MacKenzies are brilliant on Shaw: their book is never dull but it always stuzzles whenever he strides on to the page. They are very moving on Beatrice Webb. Her highly-charged encounter with the arrogant and sinister Chamberlain—who said he would not mind a wife holding ideas opposed to his provided she did so in absolute silence—was a bangle of minds which make Shaw and Ibsen at their best seem tame. Her eventual submission to Sidney Webb, a man whom she found physically repulsive and socially inferior, was a signal act of self-abnegation in a higher cause, which must have taken a high degree of courage over a long period. She appears here as Heloise without an Abelard. There are other sharp vignettes in these crowded pages: Eleanor Marx, and her disagreeable husband Edward Aveling, Keir Hardie and John Burns, Charles Bradlaugh and Graham Wallas, William Morris and Ramsay MacDonald, and scores more. The MacKenzies marshal their enormous cast like two RSMs from the Coldstream Guards, everyone is in the right place at the right time and is never allowed to impede the steady march of the narrative. This is collective biography of a high order.

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all as people, and sympathetic even with the dislikeable ones.

She is superb on the private thorns that marred people's lives: how to needle each other with. For the first time in literature since Chaucer she manages to make even her most sympathetic creatures. She has a talent for linking different women's eyes, views of the same small恶, and showing how it looks large for her characters who have become our friends.

In short, she is that rare creature, a true novelist, witty and moving and sad, and a true reflector and commentator of life.

Margaret Atwood, the Canadian poet, is a witty woman. *Lady Oracle* is born comic and moving, and also more sympathetic than ever far more explicitly writing about the psychology and anatomy of women. She sees the skull and the comedy beneath the skin; others in this week's selection never penetrate further than the pudenda. Not all of us are unfortunate enough to be fat girls with driving mothers, who compensate for their failure by vicarious ambition for their daughters. The cocky Canadian heroine of this book makes us feel that it must be just like this. The compulsively voracious fat girl fabricates her life out of fantasies, and eventually knits herself into a

tangle rather like the maze in one of the *Cosmopolitan Gothic*s that she writes pseudonymously with style and success. In another compartment of her life she loses weight and is married a radical pris; in another she has an affair with a "con-create" poet who goes for necrophotops with deep-frozen animals, and in yet another she writes an occult best-seller, while her husband cannot forgive.

The only way out seems to be to fake her own death, after the fashion set by Reginald Perrin. Let me have women around me who are fat, if they are as funny and as endearing as she is. And let us have more novels from Margaret Atwood.

I do not believe an Anglo-Saxon novelist could write a serious novel drawing an analogy between senile impotence and Europe's oil crisis, inflation and deficiency of raw materials. Rosamund Gary is a distinguished, witty, and clever author. Her parable of the sexual anguish of a French business tycoon pushing 60, equating the decline of his erection with Europe's loss of its balls (if a continent that is mythologically female can be said to have them), is unintentionally impressively comic, as well as moving, elegant in part.

A young man trapped in an aging body, the prostate energy crisis of nature, is a suitable case for fictional treatment. But the phallocentric and medical detail meant to be portentous becomes absurd.

Columba is a strange, moving and often powerful story of madness and sanity, love and hate. It starts in the womb and ends in death, and in between explores the secret places of an abnormal mind: an odd location, as if there could be such a thing as a normal mind.

A mad, cruel, Irish Catholic mother rejects her son at birth, and starved him of affection as a boy, so that repression rules his emotions. The mad-mother becomes a safe place to hide, because it is easier than living. The first section of the book dealing with the atrocious childhood that builds stone walls inside the boy's head, is more persuasive than the second, in which he partially escapes from his past through love for a woman and painting. There are effective insights into sibling envy, frustrated Oedipal feelings, and the odd way that love and sex are mixed up in family relations. In the second, half the symbolism of surrealistic painting and the healing effect of the love of a good woman sometimes stray over the edge from profundity into pretentiousness and obscurity.

The heroine of Molly Parkin's randy newspaper romp has had a journalistic career that was similar in some ways to that of the author: writing up victims in interviews of awful candour for a treddy column of remorseless vacuity in a post-war newspaper vaunted as "The Sunday Standard". Contrary to misapprehension fostered by farcical fictions such as this, life on a newspaper does not consist of a ceaseless merry-go-round of booze, hangover, tormentation of erotic variety and permutation, and minor fiddling interspersed with occasional brief spells of work to do a searing piece on such topics as paper knackers. It is an acceptable comic device (some would say it is merely realistic) to present sex as pure farce. But it then becomes impossible among the comic couplings and gropings to take seriously the occasional odd bout of lesbian passion intended to be genuine.

Philip Howard



Sidney and Beatrice Webb at the time of the Poor Law Campaign

Paul Johnson

But in late Victorian and Edwardian England, it was hard to know how many gestures of guilt ought to be made. Hubert Blund, attending his first Fabian meeting, asked if he should wear full evening dress. A reporter, covering a Fabian discussion, found it took place within a substantial mansion, and then he was escorted upstairs by a footman in blue livery with gold buttons. When she Webbs married, Beatrice discovered that her unearned income was over £1,000 a year. She decided it was right to live on this provided that their joint work was entirely devoted to the public service. Then there was the question of domestic help. This was necessary if she were, as well as the husband, was working full time for the cause, but still, in the mind of some, wrong. One compromise was to hire a maid, "most wholesome and satisfactory solution" was that the work should be done by unmarried relatives" (women, no doubt). Another was to employ servants, but insist that they stay at the family table.

It is easy to laugh, as people like Malcolm Muggeridge do at the minor, and indeed major, moral dilemmas, and political machinations, of these worthy folk. The MacKenzies quote Lord Acton on such worthy agnostics: "They saw no 'divine part of Christianity,' but divinified humanity, or humanized religion, and taught that man was perfectable but 'childish perfect'." Many still had strong Evangelical roots, as W. H. Mallock put it, "though they never confessed their past, and perhaps themselves rarely liked to dwell on it, (their) hearts are aching for the God they no longer believe in."

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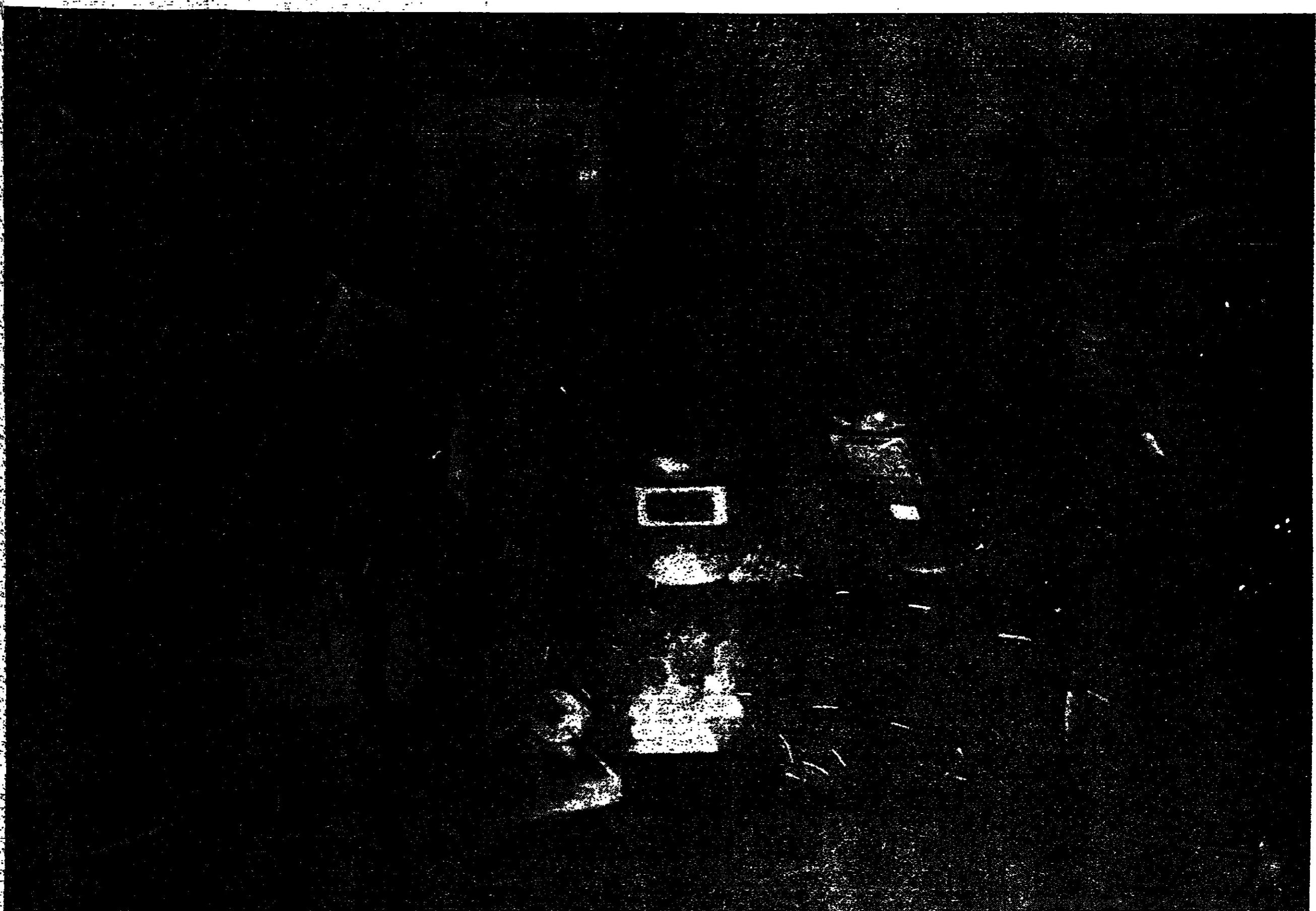
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Robert Heller with Instructor Colin McNally and a group of craft apprentices in the ICI Training Centre, Wilton.

'For youngsters, unemployment brings lack of purpose. We're determined to avoid that deprivation here.'

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At a time of record unemployment, young people and school-leavers are particularly vulnerable. What is ICI, as one of Britain's largest companies, doing to help? Country-wide, ICI, in conjunction with the Manpower Services Commission, was able to find employment for over 600 young people in 1976 in addition to those it would normally employ.

To find out how ICI is tackling the problem on Teesside, its main manufacturing site, Robert Heller, Editor of 'Management Today' talks to Brian Jenkins, Personnel Director at ICI's massive Wilton works.

Heller: How bad is the youth unemployment situation on Teesside?

Jenkins: The unemployment level amongst young people is still critical and the employment prospects for 1977 school-leavers are not very good. Of course it's not like the thirties. When you walk round the centre of Middlesbrough you don't actually see signs of deprivation. But unemployment brings not so much lack of material things, as apathy and lack of purpose. We're determined to avoid that kind of deprivation here.



Skills appreciation in action with Instructor John Fletcher.

Heller: But surely unemployment is ultimately the Government's problem. Why should you worry about it at ICI?

Jenkins: Well, for a kick-off, we're by far the biggest private employer on Teesside. We believe that it is crucial for an industry the size we are in this area to live and survive as good neighbours. And that means paying attention not only to getting the youngsters we need to train for the jobs we have to fill, but also to the total environment. As a company we will survive and grow if we live in a thriving and successful community. After all, we're going to call on this neighbourhood for generations to come for our employees.



Brian Jenkins: 'The creation of wealth is the best thing you can do for anybody; both in and out of work.'

Heller: So you're increasing the number of people you normally take on in the course of a year?

Jenkins: On Teesside as a whole, we take on 200 plus young people annually for permanent employment. But it would be wrong for us to say 'come in all you youngsters in the neighbourhood and work for us'. We're in business to make a profit. To create wealth. What we have done is to take a generous look at, for example, our skilled apprentices. We take more than we need. In fact, over the past few years there's been a considerable increase - At Wilton, our 1976 apprentice intake was 50% higher than that in 1973.

Heller: What else do you do?

Jenkins: We've started a new scheme for training process workers, the people who actually operate the plant and machinery. We'll take on about 60 young people for training on Teesside this year.

Heller: You're trying to create a far better trained and adaptable Process Worker?

Jenkins: That's right. Instruments and process control systems have become increasingly sophisticated. You can't operate them unless you understand them. You need a man of reasonable intellectual ability and a considerable amount of training.

Heller: How long does this training take?

Jenkins: Two years - much of it at a local technical college. They'll end up with City and Guilds qualifications. They also, along with our craft

Brian Jenkins, Personnel Director, ICI Petrochemicals Division, Wilton, Teesside.

and say, 'I've got a likely looking lad here. Would you like to see him?'

Heller: To what extent do you have to make good the deficiencies of the school system when you're training young people?

Jenkins: This is the great current debate isn't it? We're trying to build a much stronger bridge between Education and ourselves. We encourage school visits. Through our Work Observation scheme, children in their early teens, and shortly to leave school, spend two weeks with us to find out what industry is really like. We talk to careers masters and the representatives of the Education Authority. During the last two years I've noticed us getting much more closely together. We've even invited headmasters to consider the proposition that their teachers should spend a couple of weeks in industry during their vacation.



A group of trainee process workers outside the Olefines Plant, Wilton.

Heller: What about the young people themselves. Do they seem to be interested in industry, do they co-operate and work well?

Jenkins: Oh yes. If you put sufficient effort into helping them, you find you are on fertile ground.

Heller: Finally, do you think there's anything more you should be doing to assist in the problem of unemployed young people, school leavers?

Jenkins: From what I've told you already, I hope you will agree we are doing all we should. To train vastly more people would hamper our ability to produce the wealth this nation needs. And ultimately, the creation of wealth is the greatest single factor of benefit to people, both in and out of work.

Ideas in action



Ronald Butt

This mockery of a free vote that is sabotaging the Abortion Bill

By comparison with the big and respectable questions of the day, such as European direct elections, incomes policy or devolution, the subject of abortion and the law comes pretty low on the conventional scale of political importance.

It is also thought to be a little embarrassing. Those who have come to the conclusion that the present law must be reformed are easily dismissed as emotional fanatics (and probably Roman Catholics, no). The cool rationality is conveniently supposed to be with those who defend the present law and would like, if possible, to extend it to allow abortion on demand.

This is an opinion of them which will hardly survive an examination of the onslaught now being launched against Mr William Benyon's Private Member's Bill to reform the present abortion law and prevent abuses. Such is the frantic rage of the bitter minority who oppose it that they are prepared to stop at no abuse of procedure to get it before it reaches the Select Committee.

Last week they even had a spurious motion moved on the floor of the House "spying Strangers" in the public gallery, solely to cause a division and disrupt proceedings in the standing committee which is examining the Bill upstairs.

Inside the committee itself, they have embarked on a sustained filibuster of points of order in which they make no excuses about their objective of destroying the Bill by any means. That frightening lady Mrs Renée Short, for example, delivered a mammoth speech of no relevance at all, enumerating every available fact about Mr Benyon, from his farming to his governorship of schools and membership of parish councils.

A fine reason might be: well why not? What right has Mr Benyon to expect to get his Bill if his opponents can manage to use the procedures of the House to stop him? The answer is that it depends on whether the procedures are being used by a minority to frustrate the will of the majority—and the fact is that they are.

Let me encapsulate the history. In 1967, the present law was passed as a Private Member's Bill sponsored by Mr David Steel and with the active support of the then Home Secretary, Mr Roy Jenkins, who helped find time for it. Subsequently, the select committee reported grave abuses were revealed. Some were financial; some related to the termination of pregnancy on demand (which was never the intention of many who supported the original Act) and many of them late pregnancies.

In 1964, a Labour MP, Mr James White, a Scottish Protestant, produced a Bill to deal with abuses in the abortion law. Such was the public concern about the prevailing state of things that the House of Commons gave it a second reading by a substantial majority. Everyone knew that the pro-abortion Department of Health and Social Security opposed this. Nevertheless, Sir Harold Wilson's Government decided to constitute a select committee to which the Bill was committed.

The work of this committee under Mr Fred Willey was thorough and relevant. The extreme pro-abortionists it therefore became so alarmed that they decided to frustrate it by walking off. The select committee nevertheless carried on, and produced a report recommending legislative changes to reform the abuses it had established.

The Government, by a gentleman's agreement with Mr White, when he originally agreed to remit his own Bill to the select committee, had promised to legislate on the basis of the committee's report, but it has broken that promise to the parliamentary majority who gave the White Bill its second reading.

As a result, when Mr William Benyon drew a place in the private member's ballot, he decided to bring in a Bill to implement some of the recommendations to remove abuses dealing (for instance) with the termination of late pregnancies after 20 weeks, financial questions concerning abortion agencies and the medical certification needed to secure abortion. The "social causes" clause of the present Act is unaffected. Mr Benyon's Bill, like Mr White's,

was given a substantial majority on second reading on February 25. The will of a majority of the House is therefore being frustrated by the filibuster of a minority in committee.

Of course, it is perfectly proper for the opponents of any Bill to try to amend it in their direction and, if they can, to water it down as far as possible in committee. But it is an abuse of democratic principle for the minority in committee to attempt to destroy it in toto by obstruction through abuses of procedure.

Yet even this is not the worst aspect of the treatment that this Bill, based on the serious findings of the investigation of a select committee, is receiving. For it would be perfectly possible for the Government to find more time for it as, in honour bound, it ought to do in view of its original promise to Mr White.

But Mr Michael Foot, as Leader of the House (who is supposed to represent the interests of the House as a whole, Sir Harold Wilson's Government having decided to constitute a select committee to which the Bill was committed).

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The work of this committee under

Despite the police hard line will sentences be cut?

The momentum of moves to shorten prison sentences is increasing. As was made clear in a speech to a conference of the Howard League for Penal Reform on Monday, Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, supports the view expressed last month by the Advisory Council on the Prison System that prison sentences are on average too long. The council is at present reviewing maximum penalties.

Prison governors are also calling for shorter sentences. They and prison officers are aware of the trouble that can be caused by the overpopulation of prisons and shortage of money to deal with it. The riot at Hull—subject of a Home Office report—and the low morale of prison officers at their annual conference displayed the need for urgent action.

Governments make much of the "free votes" in conscience legislation. It is, indeed, a good thing that MPs should be free to judge issues where party considerations do not or ought not to apply according to their consciences. But the appearance of freedom conceals a different reality. Governments pick and choose the "conscience" legislation they will sit. By so doing, they get what they (or their departments) want, without having to take responsibility for it.

A government was prepared to assist the original Abortion Bill of 1967, out of parts of which the present troubles flow. Yet this Government will not assist the reform of that measure, despite two inquiries in the House, the investigation of a select committee, and the opinion of such moderate MPs as Mr Willey, Sir Bernard Braine and Mr Benyon who are not anti-abortionists.

But since the collapse of the Devolution Bill, Mr Foot has found time for the Housing (Homelessness) Bill which is sponsored by Liberal private members and is part of the bargaining with Mr Steel for the Lib-Lab pact.

The DHSS says there all that needs to be done about abortion can be done by administrative action, but the chairman of the Select Committee on Abortion, Mr Fred Willey, QC, MP, an extremely moderate and sensible Member who is no anti-abortion fanatic, does not agree.

"It is misleading nonsense," he told the House on the second reading of the Benyon Bill, "to say that they (the select committee's recommendations)



Detainees at HMP Belmarsh

been 201, while last year they were 347 and the year previous 222.

Mr Hopwood argued, as many criminologists and penal reformers do today, that more severe sentences are as effective as excessive ones in the repression of crime. He said with a forceful possible when based on such evidence: "If in six years we may reach 2,000 and more years of imprisonment and yet have greater and greater sentences, then I am afraid we may be encouraged to employ similar moderation in every case in the country." He said that at least two-thirds of imprisonments inflicted could be dispensed with.

The annual report of the then chief constable of Liverpool, Sir Bernard Braine, on the first publication of returns of crime in Liverpool since 1857, have these statistics disclosed so small an amount of crime, or so large a success in making criminals amenable to justice, as those for the year ended September 29, 1891. The number of indictable offences committed during the year was 3,320, being 907 less than the year 1890 and 967 less than the year previous.

"Each class of crime shares in the general improvement. Burglary, housebreaking, etc., continue to decrease, theft having been only 355 cases during the year against 610 last year and 633 the year previous. Serious cases of violence have not easily been gendered."

Peter Evans

Auctions for export

local staff who could visit and advise local clients.

The next step, of course, was to bid sales abroad. Sotheby's now sell in New York, Amsterdam, Zurich, Monte Carlo, Florence, Hongkong, and Johannesburg. Christie's hold regular sales in Australia and Canada, Geneva and Rome.

They opened a permanent sale room in New York last month. This has enabled Phillips to take over their old premises in Madison Avenue where they hope to start holding regular auctions in the autumn.

So now we are back to square one. All the major countries of the Western world use their local salerooms. The only difference is that the local salerooms are subsidiaries of London firms. Well, it isn't quite like that. Christie's and Sotheby's never did too well in Germany which still relies on locally based firms; by law foreign auctioneers cannot operate in France and the homegrown firms, after a period of eclipse, are now profiting from the trend back to local selling.

With Sotheby's, Christie's and Phillips all competing there, the place now to watch is New York.

The impact of Phillips is going to be particularly interesting. As in London they plan to undercut the other two, charging 10 per cent commission rather than around 20; this is likely to appeal to hard-nosed American businessmen. From a business point of view, they differ from Sotheby's and Christie's in refusing to allow the sale of costly items to the general public.

Within a few months Novotny was removed from the leadership of the party, a man of entirely different style—Alexander Dubcek—was in control and the "Prague Spring" was over.

The events of 1968 were to put the heated speeches of the previous summer into their proper perspective, no doubt. But the perspective was anything but apparent in the participants of the Writers' Union Congress at the time. Asked to compare their stand with the present Charter 77 movement, someone recently commented that in those days the critics were, after all, facing a regime that was in its death-throes, in contrast to the sheer idealism of today's protesters with no prospect of success on the horizon. I can only say that for one who took part in the congress things did not look like that at all.

The ferment among the various "cultural associations" and editorial boards that was to follow the Prague Spring was equally tempestuous. The famous "Letter to the Czechoslovak people" was the official attitude toward the Israeli-Arab conflict and the Seven Days' War. The tone of official comment was so reminiscent, with its antisemitic abuse, of the late forties and early fifties as to appal anyone who had struggled against that shameful legacy. (How many of us, with the bitter memories of Stalinism in our minds, and the shameful consciousness of having played an active role or at best having been silent amid the lies, had not inwardly sworn to ourselves that the next time we were denied as "bleeding hearts" we would pick up the gauntlet.) And that is what a group of writers

Ten years after the Prague Spring, little hope of an end to discontent for Czech writers

It was 10 years ago this week that the fourth Congress of Czechoslovak writers began in Prague and the simmering conflict between the intelligentsia and that boorish Stalinist, President Novotny, burst into open.

The repression that followed several prominent writers were expelled from the Communist Party and the Writers' Union was robbed of its newspaper and its publishing house. But the torrent of discontent was not to be stopped.

Within a few months Novotny was removed from the leadership of the party, a man of entirely different style—Alexander Dubcek—was in control and the "Prague Spring" was over.

By the beginning of 1967 we had made some progress, but the famine was still reliefs of our great astuteness, but they made up in power for what they lacked in reason, and they were entirely ruthless.

Our efforts to change the system pointed along an unexplored path. Those who stood in our way were men of no great astuteness, but they made up in power for what they lacked in reason, and they were entirely ruthless.

The writers had long been demanding one and the party leadership, to avoid a show-down, had been equally tempestuous in postponing it. When a date was finally fixed the prospects of change for the worse, as seen from Prague, appeared more gloomily probable than at any time since 1961; in Slovakia particularly there was a rising tide in favour of accepting the status quo and in the general atmosphere of timidity we seemed to be in for another episode of Czech-type "consolidation"—meaning that anyone who spoke up would be sacrificed while the public looked on.

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finally did, on the 1967 congress approached.

They were quite prepared to see the process they had submitted to the editor of the *Writers' Union* daily, *Literární Noviny*, backed by the censors in spite of its unanimous approval of their paper's staff.

Accordingly they made sure that a copy reached the forum. The following day it was almost the sole topic of discussion at a closed meeting of Communist Party writers held, as usual, on the eve of the congress itself.

At this meeting, however, the senior party officials showed that the two camps were not going to make speeches in the same language and time as at previous functions, there would still be no real confrontation.

At most it was hoped that some internal democratization within the union might ensue, particularly in the selection of leading officials. But what happened was far beyond that—and so did the subsequent reprisals.

The change of situation was in fact provoked by the authorities themselves. One indirect factor was the official attitude toward the Israeli-Arab conflict and the Seven Days' War. The tone of official comment was so reminiscent, with its antisemitic abuse, of the late forties and early fifties as to appal anyone who had struggled against that shameful legacy. (How many of us, with the bitter memories of Stalinism in our minds, and the shameful consciousness of having played an active role or at best having been silent amid the lies, had not inwardly sworn to ourselves that the next time we were denied as "bleeding hearts" we would pick up the gauntlet.) And that is what a group of writers

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THE TIMES DIARY/PHS

Tragedy with a silver lining

Poland is the only Communist country to take part in the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

The British Embassy in Warsaw has just opened an Anglo-Polish exhibition at a cost of £1,000.

It was a humbling moment for those committee members

who could see where these bull-

dozing methods could lead. But they told the line for this last time. Whenever we happened to meet them they would usually offer their excuses, mainly as party officials to justify themselves to their old colleagues there. Yet when the two embarrassing issues of the Israeli-Arab war and the writers' congress were followed by a third, the revolt of the Slovaks, communists that autumn, they finally stood up to be counted and the whole party exploded. So the congress did, after all, act as a detonator for the Czechoslovak spring.

Ten years have passed and much has changed. But the current situation has reproduced what was the chief outcome of the Dubcek days: a consensus of people with the most varying ideological backgrounds behind the concept that certain rights areinalienable.

The congress, the "Prague Spring", and now the Charter 77 movement, all confirm that for nations in the mainstream of European humanism there is a platform of minimum demands—a platform whose denial cannot be indefinitely prolonged without risk to Europe's peace and security. The longer those demands are ignored, the more menacing will pressures build up.

A. J. Lichin

Pre-selection

For busy bees, the National Gallery has produced a quick guide to 16 of its most famous paintings. All the vital facts await you in a pull-out reflet.

Now you're in the know about each masterpiece.

No prizes for guessing that the top 16 include Constable's The Hay Wain and the Leonardo cartoon. The leaflet also comes in Japanese, French, German and Italian, and at 20p

you need to know about each masterpiece.

Never the less, one must be respectful to the grass carp from the Amur river because it is well known to be additive to Britain's cladding.

It thrives on tender weeds like pondweed. And that is why it is being introduced experimentally to Britain's cladding.

At first sight, a Chinese fish that is fond of lettuce does not sound the archetypal saviour of Britain's waterways.

the police have sentences been



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HERE ELSE WILL THEY GET JOBS?

Grunwick picketing were place in South Africa or in the United States everyone would have seen the colour. In the streets around the population is about mixed: about half the one meets are coloured, our half are white. Within one hundred yards of the there is one of the best restaurants in London, Indian restaurants easily over the places which English dishes. At the site dominantly white crowd, small minority of coloured tries to stop a bus largely coloured people getting jobs. Mr Arthur Scargill tough-looking group of miners from Yorkshire to the Asian workers.

true that the workers and those who stayed largely coloured. But of coloured workers have shown astonish-

ment to Grunwick. They one, so for an obvious

An immigrant communists only have a place of for itself in the host if it is prepared to order and for less pay existing host community. Though Grunwick is a and Mr Ward is oper-

national to medium size busi-

basic principle is the

that by which Asian

operate small shops

native Londoners are no

l to run.

ns that Grunwick does in wages which are reason- imparable with those in similar factory respect of European food prices. Their function is to obtain higher pay for their members than would be set if there were a free market for labour. This is a perfectly reasonable thing for members of trade unions to want; it must be in the interest of those who are actually in employment that their pay should be as high as possible. Unfortunately, in the labour market as in the butter market, when the price is raised above the market clearing level the market is not cleared. The natural consequence of strong trade unions is therefore that those in employment should be paid above the market clearing level, but that part of the labour force should be unable to find employment. An artificial price

into existence, or expanded, if they did not have a competitive edge, and the only edge they could have is low labour costs and a willing labour force not restricted by trade union attitudes.

They are not necessarily good employers, but they are employers, and if they thrive their employment practices usually improve.

The massive reaction of the trade union movement, including the most extreme and oppressive threats, and including actual illegality, shows what a serious challenge Grunwick presents, small as the scale of operation is. Trade union leaders understand instinctively, though few of them would admit formally, the relationship between trade union activity and employment.

A market determines the price for all goods at the point at which the last available goods are sold. If there are one thousand bananas on the market the price of the last banana will be the price of the last banana; that is known as the market clearing price or as the principle of the marginal determination of prices.

If the price of goods is artificially raised then not all of the goods will be sold. We see an example of this in the butter mountain. In a free market all the butter produced in Europe would be sold. Some is not sold because the price of butter is artificially maintained above the market clearing level.

The function of trade unions in respect of wages is the same as that of the common agricultural policy in respect of European food prices. Their function is to obtain higher pay for their members than would be set if there were a free market for labour. This is a perfectly reasonable thing for members of trade unions to want; it must be in the interest of those who are actually in employment that their pay should be as high as possible. Unfortunately, in the labour market as in the butter market, when the price is raised above the market clearing level the market is not cleared. The natural consequence of strong trade unions is therefore that those in employment should be paid above the market clearing level, but that part of the labour force should be unable to find employment. An artificial price

for butter creates a butter mountain, and an artificial price for wages creates a man mountain.

There are two ways in which this can be counteracted. It can be undercut by a more competitive labour force overseas, which is why Japan outsells Britain and Hong Kong can outsell Japan. It can also be undercut at home by people who belong to that section of the labour market which is not cleared. They can create jobs for themselves by taking wages below the prevailing trade union level, or by working without restrictive practices on which the trade unions insist.

Both these processes inevitably happen all the time. Trade unions have therefore only a limited and qualified ability to raise wages above the market clearing price and equally only a limited ability to cause the unemployment which must necessarily follow.

When however there is a whole community, such as the immigrants in Britain, which suffers substantially above average unemployment, because it is mistakenly regarded as the least preferred type of labour, that community can only defend itself by competing with the host community in terms of labour cost and labour efficiency. In just the same way the workers of Hong Kong compete internationally with the community of Japan. Because this competition directly threatens the function of trade unions it provides a critical challenge. It is for this reason that the trade unions are reacting at Grunwick in such an excessive way. Yet the proposition which the trade unions actually represent is the offensive one that people, in this case coloured people, should not be allowed to obtain or keep jobs by undercutting the rates, or overmatching the productivity, which the trade unions have established for the existing white majority of their membership.

There are after all two simple questions, which the Asian ladies in the bus, could put to the Yorkshire miners, if they were to picket them. If we have the unions in, will Grunwick be more or less likely to remain a profitable firm where our jobs are safe? If you close down Grunwick can you offer us other jobs?

effect of such an agreement upon his judgment? This is of course to assume that the strategic triad of land, sea and air-based deterrence should be maintained.

The most sensible option would seem to be that preferred by the Pentagon, which is for a mix of B-52s, armed with cruise missiles, and a force of up to 150 B-1s, which would be cheaper than the present target of 244 B-1s on their own. This would allow the modified B-52s, each armed with some 20 cruise missiles to concentrate on less well-defended targets in the Eastern Soviet Union while the B-1s with their better penetration would have their own short-range attack missiles (SRAMs) to deal with more distant better defended objectives.

With so much depending on a SALT agreement, and with the need to impose further constraints on offensive weapons still of paramount importance, this compromise can only be a holding option. But it would provide the United States with political flexibility in the short term and military flexibility in the long term. President Carter should therefore press on with a more limited B-1 programme, while preserving the right to adjust his priorities later.

Reporting restrictions

From Mr Walter S. Greenwood

Sir, It is surprising that a professional journalist, such as Mr Michael Bowes, should imply (June 27) that the only legal restrictions that affect newspapers, chiefly in court reporting, is probably that journalists in no other country in Western Europe have to wade through such a labyrinth of statutes.

Apart from defamation and contempt, there are at least eleven Acts of Parliament some highly complex and imprecise, which restrict newspapers, chiefly in court reporting. It is probable that journalists in no other country in Western Europe have to wade through such a labyrinth of statutes.

Promised we will now accept the decision of 9,270 of ICI's management and professional staff that their conditions of employment should be settled by negotiations between the company and the Association of Professional Scientists and Technologists. After all, they had voted in a ballot conducted by an independent organization in which 81 per cent of a 90 per cent poll chose to be represented by APST.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE GILLEBRAND,
Executive Secretary,

WALTER S. GREENWOOD,
Assistant Editor (Training),
Thomson Regional Newspapers
Limited,
Editorial Training Centre,
9 Biggs Market,
Swindon,
Manchester,
Newcastle upon Tyne.
June 27.

DOSING THE RIGHT BOMBER

s has voted to authorize funding for the B-1 which, at a total estimated cost of 24,500 million threatens to become the expensive weapon system produced. It is certainly the most controversial. Carter is expected to final decision on the today and judging from statements and counter- of the past seven years several million Americans would like to make it. But it is questionable if it is yet in a position to

gument against the B-1 it is very costly, and dispute that. Another while a generation ahead of it, it by no means provides an answer to tests raised over the manned strategic air-craft. Strategic Air Command for the B-1 is treated with some SAC have already seen project collapse and are dably worried about the long-range force if the B-1 also into oblivion.

Investment
Chairman of The Stock

osing the buyers of part the Government has ne favour towards the saver. What a good thing, a welcome reversal of Government policy. For (and not just during of the last Government's policies has the individual saver, plunged by discrimination for securing his savings in British industry and

it is not far short of it is the chief difficulty facing President Carter as these arguments reverberate around the White House is that he has to make a decision in a situation which is both delicate and dynamic. The chances of signing a SALT-2 agreement by the end of this year are calculated at rather better than ever. What would be the effect of his judgment upon those chances and still more important, what would be the

effect of such an agreement upon his judgment? This is of course to assume that the strategic triad of land, sea and air-based deterrence should be maintained.

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GOODISON
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Professor Alan Day

Sir, Mr David Steel, writing in *The Times* on June 27 about the Grunwick dispute, discusses the "right of exploited and underpaid workers" to join a union. The right of all workers to join a union should be beyond question. But it should also be acknowledged whether the Grunwick workers were underpaid even before the 25 per cent increase in basic rates which has apparently come in the last year. A sensible basis of comparison lies between the most recent statements of wage rates and earnings at Grunwick, to be found in the responsible press, and national average rates for women and girls published by the Department of Employment.

One recent responsible report was that, in 1974, Mrs Desai (*ibid.*) was a part-time worker on £20.75 per hour. In April 1974 average weekly earnings in women's earnings in all industries were £5.57 per hour. Another responsible report indicates that last year basic pay (apparently for 35-hour week) was between £29.60 and £55.20-4 from about £0.85 to about £1.58 per hour. In April 1976 average adult women's earnings were £1.01 per hour, while for girls under 18 the figure was £0.63 per hour.

While all such comparisons are notoriously difficult, and while it also has to be accepted that ruling wage rates are probably higher in London than the national average, it must be concluded that the evidence for the view that Grunwick workers were underpaid, even before the recent sharp increases, is hardly persuasive.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN DAY,

The London School of Economics and Political Science,

Houghton Street, WC2.

June 28.

From Mr R. N. Vallance

Sir, The reported comment of Sir Michael Havers, QC (*The Times*, June 28) seems to manifest again that dangerous ambivalence towards the legal rights of trade unionists that has characterised Conservative policy in industrial relations matters. Sir Michael describes the law on picketing as conveying an "immunity" not a "right". This is surely a complete distortion of the purpose of legislation on this subject. The "immunity" that is implied in legislation in the field of civil law—the protection of a lawful picker from the police or from the driver—is a right.

As the police physically prevent pickets from exercising their legal rights then it is hardly surprising that angry scenes develop. Indeed, it could be argued that in so doing the police are acting without lawful authority themselves.

Yours faithfully,
RUSS VALLANCE,

15 St Cadoc House,

Temple Street,

Keynsham,

Bristol.

June 28.

From Dr J. D. Harrison

Sir, One of my dental patients is a policeman who was attacked by five pickets at Grunwick and had one of his front teeth smashed. He told me that his attackers were subsequently arrested and were fined ten pounds each. I would be interested to know of any other country in which people who attack the police are dealt with so leniently.

Yours sincerely,

J. D. HARRISON,

42 Ticehurst Road,

Forest Hill, SE23.

June 26.

From Mr Graham Smith

Sir, It is said that Apex is fighting for the right of Grunwick employees to join a union, and that this issue is central to the dispute. Is this correct?

The main Apex claim is for recognition, a status which has little relevance to the right of a worker to join a union, but which confers upon the union the right to represent for collective bargaining

institutions.

No, said the forty; it would be worse.

They reported. The President of the European Confederation of Trade Unions and the European Committee on Research and Development were among those who endorsed the report. Today (after nearly two years to consider it) a report, written in one, the Commission is, I understand, to recommend to the Council of Ministers that they do not do the same thing again. The Commission bureaucrats have wanted all along, and not what, the forty persons of wider view so strongly advised. They are to recommend the addition of a few more officials to one of the nineteen directorates general in order to sift what is done by other people for other purposes.

Con is the original vision of Ralf Dahrendorf, and gone is the work of the forty people I gathered not to strengthen this or that faction, each with a certain national backing, within the bureaucratic politics of Brussels, but to serve the people of Western Europe as a whole in the same way. Just as the US, Sweden, Canada, our individual countries, and the great international corporations are served.

I have not had time to consult my colleagues about this letter. But our report is published (*The Futures of Europe*, Cambridge University Press) and I am sure they mean to use it. Will the European Council, meeting today in London, grasp this opportunity to bring in the long view? If not now, when? If not they, who?

Yours etc.,

WAYLAND KENNEDY,

House of Lords,

June 28.

The Cambridge conspiracy

From Mr Peter Hennessy

Sir, May I take the unusual step of associating myself personally with a leading article today in the newspaper by which I am employed?

As the author of two articles printed in *The Times* of June 15 concerning the character and career of the late Donald Bevan, I wish to retract in full the grievous allegations they contained about his involvement in the Phyllis/Burgess/MacLean affair. In doing so I accept personal responsibility.

I would like to apologize unreservedly to the family, friends and former colleagues of Donald Bevan for the harm and distress caused.

Yours faithfully,

PETER HENNESSY,

The Times,

New Printing House Square, WC1.

June 29.

Writing to "The Times"

From Mr L. C. Jarrett

Sir, Mrs Helma Archdale, in her letter (June 22), tells us that Marie Stopes chose, writing to *The Times* as an alternative to suicide.

I greatly fear that if all those whose letters *The Times* had been unable to publish, had committed suicide as the only alternative, the fall in readership would have been so serious as to make its continuing publication no longer viable.

Yours sincerely,

L. C. JARRETT,

Beverston,

Tisbury,

answered
questions in
Chiasso
air, page 21

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Compulsory plan or inflation accounting killed uring ballot

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

A wave of heavy selling all over the world drove the value of the dollar down everywhere yesterday. There were heavy gains for most of the strong currencies and some of the weak ones, with the Japanese yen being the biggest winner. However, the Bank of England intervened on the market to keep the value of the pound steady at \$1.7210, taking more dollars from the already-large reserves in the process. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 61.5 to 61.3 because other currencies were allowed to float up.

The selling wave started in Tokyo yesterday morning before Europe was even awake, with a fall of around 1 per cent in the United States currency's parity against the yen to \$68.675. When the European exchanges opened they saw that there had been no action to slow the dollar's fall. They assumed that there would be a similar inactivity in Europe and were proved right as Deutsche marks, Swiss francs and a rag-bag of other currencies gained ground.

Mr Morpeth looks set to stay despite criticism.

and Mr Morpeth looks set to stay.

Criticism of the leadership of the profession, which is seen not to have understood the feelings either of accountants in industry or of its own grass roots, is growing. Many senior accountants think that a different approach would have brought in a CCA standard with little difficulty.

The ASC says: "... substantial simplification and modification of ED 18 will be necessary before ASC can propose to the accountancy bodies a generally acceptable system of CCA for introduction as standard practice."

It also believes that further time will have to be given for appraisal of the changes and this will mean further delay in the introduction of any standard, which is present is fixed for major companies for accounts beginning in January next year.

The likely programme now is for the introduction of a supplementary statement-based standard on costs of sales and additional depreciation adjustments, which will be only a "provisional standard" and so will not be compulsory. The chances of any adjustments for monetary items seem slim, but could be brought in later.

There would then be a slow move towards a changeover completely to CCA accounts when they were generally accepted and understood.

The ASC says it has not altered its view that current cost accounting is urgently necessary, but ED 18 now seems to have been killed.

00 working lost in May gh strikes

through strikes in May totalled the same as the May figures bring for the year to which is already more number lost in the 976. At this stage of just over 1.3 million workers had been lost.

244 strikes involved workers in May, the total number of this year, to 1,087, to figures in the Department of Employment

also shows that those worked in the April 23 was down a seasonally adjusted 15.78 million hours million hours in the mid-March.

April it is estimated over cent of the work-

on overtime, with 1.8 million workers

On average they 5 hours, down from a week which was an estimated 35.3

f workers in March.

the food division made the major contribution to the half its despite the continued burden of the Meawood Road and the interruption of production resulting from the last November.

new tank plant has been installed in the factory at Wood Rise and is now operational and the current order is promising.

property divisions activities continue to be limited to ice developments.

owing the Secretary of State's decision dated 12th May, limiting the purchase notice served by the company on corporation in respect of the premises at Meawood Road, is regarding the company's claim against the corporation. The successful conclusion to these negotiations will be of effect on both the liquidity and profitability of the company.

R. Minton, Chairman.

E RAKUSEN GROUP LIMITED

alf year results to 31st December 1976 (unaudited)

	1975	1976
Profit	£6,400	597,900
Profit	94,400	92,900
Profit	68,600	71,700
Fore taxatio	25,300	21,200

for taxation has been made.

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R. Minton, Chairman.

29th June, 1977.

Fall in dollar hastened by doubts over US economy

By Roger Vielvoe

Energy Correspondent

A wave of heavy selling all over the world drove the value of the dollar down everywhere yesterday. There were heavy gains for most of the strong currencies and some of the weak ones, with the Japanese yen being the biggest winner. However, the Bank of England intervened on the market to keep the value of the pound steady at \$1.7210, taking more dollars from the already-large reserves in the process. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 61.5 to 61.3 because other currencies were allowed to float up.

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UK anti-dumping task switches to Brussels

By Edward Townsend

The Department of Trade yesterday announced the results of six anti-dumping investigations for the year to which is already more number lost in the 976. At this stage of just over 1.3 million workers had been lost.

244 strikes involved workers in May, the total number of this year, to 1,087, to figures in the Department of Employment

also shows that those worked in the April 23 was down a seasonally adjusted 15.78 million hours million hours in the mid-March.

In five cases, the department received satisfactory undertakings from the countries involved about future price levels; and in the sixth case, involving PVC leathercloth from Hungary and East Germany, no dumping was found.

Despite the switch to Brussels, the Department of Trade's anti-dumping unit is to continue in operation. Its staff of 18 is double the size of the European Commission anti-dumping section, and reflects the much larger number of complaints from British industries compared with their counterparts in other EEC countries.

It is expected that many United Kingdom industries will continue to make initial approaches to the department,

which will assist in the drawing up of formal applications to Brussels, although in some cases, such as the recent European protest about Japanese ball bearing imports where industries have strong international ties, it will now be possible to make direct application to the Commission.

The department said yesterday it was studying about 15 applications for anti-dumping action, and would be discussing with the industries concerned the question of submitting them to Brussels.

One step being urged in this direction is an end of frontier formalities for travellers within the EEC, even though this might mean a loss of revenue to some countries.

The Commission takes over anti-dumping inquiries tomorrow when the transitional period for United Kingdom membership of the EEC ends. All products except those covered by the Treaty of Paris which established the European Coal and Steel Community, will be covered.

Registered in the West Indian Island of St Vincent but operating mainly from its premises in

Bank admits dividend error

Standard Chartered Bank, whose chairman is Lord Barber, the former Chancellor, admitted yesterday it had made a mistake over its dividend calculations for the financial year to the end of March.

Increased payments for shareholders were announced yesterday less than 24 hours after the board indicated that shareholders were being given "maximum" payments by raising the total distribution by 10 per cent to £11.3m.

It appears that the Standard Chartered directors misinterpreted the Treasury rules for dividend increases, which allow companies to raise their gross dividend a share by 10 per cent.

After talks with Treasury officials Standard Chartered announced they had been given permission for a further increase in the dividends.

Shareholders' final payment for the past financial year is now being lifted from 14.4p a share gross announced yesterday to 15.9p a share.

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Nine Opec members decide to forgo oil price increase 'in interest of unity and solidarity'

By Roger Vielvoe

Energy Correspondent

Nine of the 11 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) who were due to raise their crude oil prices by 5 per cent from tomorrow confirmed in a statement from Vienna last night that they would forgo the increase.

There was no explanation why Iraq and Libya had not signed or whether they would go ahead with an increase from tomorrow.

Despite uncertainty over the outcome of the missing signatures—Libya and Iraq—it is still expected that Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates will make a reciprocal gesture and increase their prices by 5 per cent to bring them into line with the majority.

However, Saudi and the UAE rejected a 10 per cent rise from January 1 followed by a further 5 per cent on July 1. They introduced a 5 per cent increase.

At the same time Saudi Arabia removed a ceiling on its oil production.

A number of international oil companies without major access to Saudi supplies will be glad to see the end of the present two-tier system.

British Petroleum and Shell were beginning to find difficult

ries competing with Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Standard Oil of California, who had access to nearly 10 million barrels of cheap crude.

The meeting in Stockholm will decide how long any unified pricing system that might emerge should last. It is expected that it will be a minimum of three months while a number of members, including the Saudi Arabians, would like it to last a year.

Restoration of pricing unity within the organization would bring the total rise during 1977 to 9.2 per cent, although a stand by Iraq and Libya could bring this figure close to 10 per cent.

North Sea Oil: The price of North Sea oil may rise by only 10 cents a barrel in the wake of a planned 20 cents a barrel increase by Libya and Algeria in the third quarter of the year.

And the influential Petroleum Intelligence Weekly says that

North Sea producers might have to settle for no increase or even a fall.

North Sea prices have moved in line with charges by African members mainly in the United States, but are expected to be described by PIA as sluggish.

Most North Sea producers expect to follow Nigeria in the second quarter, raising prices by about 20 cents a barrel.

Since the new Algerian and Libyan increases will barely catch up with Nigerian prices, they provide little justification for a North Sea price rise, in the opinion of most oil buyers, the magazine says.

Frank Vogl writes from Washington: President Carlos Andrade Pérez of Venezuela said yesterday that the decision to maintain oil prices demonstrated the unity of Opec and showed that Venezuela was interested in ensuring a more just and balanced world economic order.

Sir Monty to head inquiry on engineers

By Derek Harris

Sir Monty Finniston, former chairman of the British Steel Corporation, and noted for his independence, is to be chairman of the main government inquiry into the engineering profession.

Sir Monty, who first trained as a metallurgist and has been a leading figure in the engineering profession, has in principle, it is understood, accepted the offer of the job from Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry.

It was Mr Varley, who ended Sir Monty's three years as BSC chairman when he decided not to renew Sir Monty's contract which ran out in September last year.

Since then Sir Monty has taken on a number of company directorships, including the chairmanship of Sir Charles Clore's Sears Holdings.

Some details on the format of the inquiry have still to be settled, but its terms of reference have now been established and an official announcement is now expected from Mr Varley.

The inquiry, a wide-ranging one, will cover aspects of education and training as well as the status of professional en-

gineers and the organization of the profession.

The question of the low status of many engineers, which has been an increasing anxiety for the profession, will inevitably raise questions on salary levels, a possible politically sensitive issue in the context of any current incomes policy.

Sir Monty, who will probably sit with a commission of around 15, is likely to take 18 months for this important assessment of what will be virtually the complement to the Government's industrial strategy.

Promoting industrial expansion and innovation has to be matched by a flow of engineering talent of the right kind in the right quantity.

These and similar problems have been under study by the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the coordinating committee chaired by Sir Monty.

The British Association's report, expected in August, is likely to show that one problem is not so much a shortage of professional engineers but the quality of such personnel.

Status problems as much as those of salary are likely to be highlighted. There is also the question of whether to try to tap more fully other possible sources of top-level engineers.

New shipbuilding chief calls for a concerted effort to beat problems

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Calls for a concerted effort at all levels of shipbuilding to overcome the difficulties the industry faces were made yesterday by Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, chairman of British Shipbuilders, which will be formally vested tomorrow.

The formation of British Shipbuilders marks the tenth anniversary of the amalgamation of the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association, which will be formally dissolved today.

Individual companies would act as profit centres responsible within broad guidelines for the conduct of their own affairs.

On the question of industrial democracy, he said British Shipbuilders had a new opportunity to establish and foster the type

of relationship based on involvement and responsibility between employers and employees that was needed to ensure the future prosperity of the industry.

The SRNA said yesterday that a

Managers ask how to handle new wage deals

By Malcolm Brown

Managers' leaders yesterday urged the Government to give clear guidance to management and unions on how to deal with pay negotiations if there was any interval between the end of phase two and the start of another agreed phase of pay policy.

A delegation from the British Institute of Management, led by Mr Michael Edwards, a vice-chairman, told Mr Healey, the Chancellor, that there was growing concern among companies due to start a new round of negotiations in the late summer.

They were afraid that if no agreement had been reached on a new phase of pay policy before the expiry of the present phase, they would be negotiating in an atmosphere of uncertainty.

The BIM team, which say stressed the need to adhere to the rule that there should be 12 months between principal pay increases.

Mr Edwards said: "Our chief purpose was to discuss BIM's proposals for the next phase of pay policy, which are based on a recognition of the manager's deteriorating position in the pay structure of the country: on the need to ease the squeeze on differentials; and on the need to provide incentives within overall constraint."

The key fight, he said, was against inflation. To help win the fight it was essential to get the right mix of a flexible pay policy and reductions in income tax. The last Budget had been a first step in the right direction and must be followed by consistent economic and fiscal policies.

"We reminded the Chancellor of BIM's view that there should be a long-term plan to reduce the total tax burden,

Study sets out need for 680,000 jobs

By David Blaikie

Britain will have to find an extra 680,000 jobs between now and 1981 just to keep unemployment steady, according to a study by the Department of Employment. Another million jobs will be needed in the five years to 1985.

The latest issue of the Employment Gazette contains projections for the labour force to 1986. According to the estimates the total male labour force will go up from 15,931,000

this year to 16,164,000 in 1981 and the female work force will go up to 10,570,000 from 10,122,000.

An increasing labour force is likely to cause major problems to governments in the years ahead as they struggle to keep down unemployment.

There are five main factors:

First and most important is

the Government's programme of measures to help school leavers, announced yesterday, is a first step to try to grapple with this problem.

The second factor is that relatively few people will be retiring, since those coming up to retirement age were born during the First World War when birth rates were low.

The third force pushing up the number of people wanting to work is the increasing tendency for married women to go out

to work, a function of the sharp fall in the birth rate, which means that fewer of them are out of the labour market.

This is combined with greater attraction towards work now than job opportunities have improved.

Against this, the number of people staying on in full-time education is expected to go up, though this will to some extent be countered by a tendency for both men and women to go out working past retirement age.

There are five main factors:

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Pirelli to start 'task force' experiment to aid output

From John Whitmore

Industria Pirelli, the Italian manufacturing company of the Dunlop-Pirelli group, has reached agreement with the trade unions on experimental introduction of "work areas" in which teams of workers will be free to rotate tasks among themselves.

The experiment initially will affect about 3,000 workers making tyres and some other goods, but will now apply to the whole sector.

Management, anxious to introduce the new method, will study possible output levels with worker representatives in relation to plant capacity for

each work area, and the management will set an overall piecework payment for the area, instead of the present individual piecework rates.

It is hoped the new method will increase productivity and raise average individual earnings by about 40 lire (2.7p) per hour. Workers in each area will be divided in two levels of technical skill, inside which they may share tasks.

The agreement has been welcomed by the chemical union federation and by the Pirelli works council as introducing a more modern structure for the organization of labour which will give them a closer insight into the firm's production plans.

£670m annual food import saving possible by 1980, report says

By Craig Seton

Britain could reduce the cost of imported food by £670m a year by the early 1980s if investment in the country's agricultural industry improved to finance higher production, a report published yesterday by the Agricultural Economic Development Committee predicts.

But to achieve this, it says, profitability would need to be sufficiently high to give farmers a reasonable return on capital. The main options for achieving higher profitability, lower taxation for agricultural expansion by pursuing policies to achieve a lasting saving in food imports.

The Government should also recognize that agricultural expansion would help to sustain the Government's industrial strategy and is consistent with it seeking outside finance.

The report is one of three published yesterday in the series "Agriculture into the 1980s", which cover resources and strategy, finance and taxation in the agricultural industry.

The main report on resources and strategy says that investment needed to achieve an annual expansion of 2½ per cent in net production, as set out in the 1973 White Paper "Food from our own resources" may not be sustained without an improvement in the expected cash flow of the industry.

The availability of land, manpower and technical resources, together with opportunities for

Wilson team hear views by discount market on funding

By John Whitmore

Providing funds for industry should not be taken merely to mean new money for development and capital investment, according to the first submission by the London Discount Market Association to the Wilson Committee. Some regard should also be paid to the flexible availability of funds for working capital provided by the use of bills of exchange.

Industry, the association suggests, has already been paying considerable attention to the possibilities presented by increased use of bills of exchange. The total liability of the discount houses in respect of commercial bills has increased from

the 1956 total of £152m, quoted in the Radcliffe report, to an end-1976 figure approaching £3,000m.

The association says that the main advantages of the bill of exchange to the customer are that the cost is generally competitive with bank overdrafts, that the financing cost of a transaction can be calculated at the outset, that bills can be used to allow a company to make greater use of overdraft facilities, that bills can be useful when other sources of finance are temporarily hard to come by, and that a bill is a legal document for which the consequences of default are clearly defined.

Builders are cautious on policy review

Housebuilders yesterday gave a "cautious qualified welcome" to the Government's housing policy review, published on Tuesday.

Mr Tony Cavanagh, president of the Housebuilders Federation, said that he was pleased to see that the Government had again proclaimed its support for ownership.

Builders, he said, would particularly welcome the assistance proposed for first-time buyers, but the effect spread over the whole industry, would be "pretty marginal", and was in any case unlikely to take effect for two or three years.

One disappointment was that there was no important shift in financial resources from the public to the private sector. "We feel that a small step has been made in the right direction," Mr Cavanagh said, "but regret that the opportunity has not been taken for a larger step."

Speaking in York last night, Mr Peter Morley, president of the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, said: "We particularly welcome the Government's proposals to assist first-time purchasers—a policy for which we have been pressing for some time."

"The continuation of tax relief on mortgage interest and option-mortgage subsidy is also to be welcomed, but we would have wished to see a more positive line taken on increasing the £25,000 limit on house purchase loans admissible for tax relief."

Unions' plea on chemicals investment

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Top government ministers will be told today that there is a crisis of confidence developing in Britain's petrochemical industry. Trade union leaders from the industry are to meet Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, and Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, to discuss what they consider to be a shortfall in effective United Kingdom investment in petrochemicals.

There has been considerable concern among union leaders over ICI's decision to develop a £240m chemicals complex in north Germany.

Mr David Warburton, national officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and chairman of the Joint Chemical Trades Union Committee, said last night that the unions were concerned with the lack of firm commitment by industry to inject sufficient funds to ensure that North Sea oil resources were used not only for oil companies but for the nation.

"There is a crisis of confidence developing because companies do not seem anxious to honour the obligations we previously agreed," he said.

"This is the conflict of interest: we support North Sea oil exploitation for the sake of our own industries and jobs; major oil companies exploit it for profits," he added.

He suggested that to ensure the transfer of oil benefits to United Kingdom industries, tax concessions and investment aid could be withdrawn from companies whose aim was to benefit themselves and not the country.

Yesterday the Chemical Industries Association underlined the contribution that industry was making to the economy and said that total sales by the industry amounted to an estimated £11,000m last year.

120 Rolls-Royce men end strike

A strike by 120 engineers at the Rolls-Royce aero-engine plant at Hibbington, Glasgow, is over. They decided yesterday to go back immediately, and the rest of the 3,700 workforce were expected to lift their support action of an overtime ban and policy of non-cooperation.

The strike began 10 days ago after the suspension of a man for "extreme carelessness", and union opposition to his downgrading.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The focus on national quality

From Mr N. T. Burgess

Sir, A letter from Mr Weinberg in your issue of June 23 refers to the economics of quality as it concerns manufacturers in this country and warns that measures may not be going in the right direction.

Indeed, the attention now being focused on quality by customers (both home and abroad) is long overdue and in general the improvements in quality in many sectors of industry has a direct bearing on the efforts of several enthusiasts which stem from the National Quality Year organized in 1966, 67, which your correspondent well remembers.

There are bound to be occa-

sions when well-intentioned techniques are misapplied, but on the credit side it should be recognized that without the attention now being given to quality assurance by many United Kingdom suppliers we should be denied access to world markets for equipment in rewarding areas such as defence, nuclear power, etc. Indeed, there are many British manufacturers who have invested many thousands of pounds in quality assurance to obtain orders, particularly from the United States, that would otherwise be denied to them.

It is wrong to generalize in such matters and while profitability remains a prime objective of quality control, society

now demands that the safety of equipment be a prime concern of quality practitioners. The National Council for Quality and Reliability is a body comprising a large number of British enterprises who are dedicated to raising industry, commerce and the Government in promoting the quality of all types of British products and services. It is also the United Kingdom member of the European organization, having similar objectives.

Younger, etc.
N. T. BURGESS,
Chairman,
National Council for Quality
and Reliability,
1 Berkeley Walk,
London SW1H 9JJ.

Who is out of step in the EEC?

From Mr Stephan Schattmann

Sir, Commemiring on the astounding contribution to our economy by his colleagues Professors Lord Kaldor and Neil Postlethwaite, with its extraordinary blend of non-securitaires dressed in scientific fests and judicial bigness, Professor Frank Hahn, also of Cambridge (June 18), should warn them that their approach brings into disrepute even the modest contribution economics can make to any evaluation of EEC membership at the present time.

It is, frankly, depressing to see two of the most respected members of one's profession succumbing to the current vogue of blaming Britain's major structural problems on EEC membership. Everybody else it seems is out of step. And why not create a new kind of *Dolchstosslegende* if it suits the argument?

The Germans are guilty of a "beggar my neighbour policy" because their exports to us increase faster than ours to them. The result: a mounting deficit on Britain's trade account with Germany. Of course, as Professor P. A. Reynolds reminded us on June 8 a deficit can be reduced by selling more or by importing less. But, surely, it cannot be argued that Britain would have sold more abroad by not being a member of the Community.

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Fodens: Rolls-Royce has adequate capital

From Mr I. J. Fraser

Sir, I read with concern your market report comment on June 28 in which you made two statements which seemed to me unjustified.

The first was that: "Fodens could well reject Rolls-Royce Motors' formal share offer, which, as expected, said nothing about how Rolls is faring." This is not so. Our offer document of May 30 spoke of current trading and included the statement: "Profits for the year to date are ahead of those for the equivalent period in 1976." This statement was repeated in the letter of June 27 containing the increased share offer.

Secondly your column said: "It is still not clear that Rolls has the money both to finance an expanding Fodens and

Yours faithfully,
I. J. FRASER,
Chairman, Rolls-Royce Motors,
21 Montefiore,
London EC2P 2HT,
June 29.

Comparative taxation

From Mr D. G. Lindsay

Sir, Mr V. Green (June 23) complains that a single person over 65 starts paying tax at an effective rate of 55 per cent when his income reaches £3,250.

As a father of three teenage children I start paying tax at 50 per cent when my family income reaches £9,986, corresponding to £1,576 per family member. I would move up to 60 per cent at £10,400 (corresponding to £2,080 per family member) and then up to 65 per cent at £10,900 (corresponding to £2,180 per family member).

Further, the individual over 65 enjoys a tax threshold of £1,080, against my family's tax threshold of £1,896, although most reliable statistics confirm that my family's basic needs are about six times as costly as those of the single elderly man.

D. G. LINDSAY,
8 Swansdown Field,
Whitchurch-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire, RG8 7BP.

Record Profits top £4m Orders at High Level		
Specialist engineering group supplying wide range of industries		
1977	March 1976	
Turnover	£40m	£32m up by 24%
Pre-tax Profit	£4.14m	£3m up by 37%
Earnings per Share	7.8p	5.9p up by 32%
Total net Dividend	3.715p	3.386p

Chairman Mr. Thomas Kenny FCA reports:

- * Group's seventh successive record year. Profits more than trebled in four years.
- * Over £2 million spent on new buildings and machinery, making £7m in five years. Further substantial expenditure planned.
- * Strong financial condition, with net cash resources of over £4 million.
- * Direct exports increased by 23%—direct and indirect exports estimated to be over 50% of turnover.
- * Order books at higher level than for some time—and trend continues.

Principal members of the Group

Steel Stampings	Firms and wheels for commercial vehicle and earthmoving machinery and heavy steel pressings.
Dairy Engineering	Air receivers, pressure vessels and tanks

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Beaverbrook and the non-voting issue

The debate over non-voting shares is to be slowly dying a natural death by one of the more prominent exponents of the writing on the wall from the companies Bill, which would have our such capital structures in the same they are banned in the United States, is and South Africa, or were forced to emfranchisement by the need fresh money from shareholders (as of Rank and Lyons, for example), verbrook takeover has again stirred particular hornet's nest.

Lyons' strategy is to concentrate hard on getting a better performance out of the remaining businesses—food manufacture and distribution. But that will only nibble at the debt mountain. Reducing debt by £10m or even £20m a year necessarily means a long haul, and that of course assumes there will be no more upsets of a less unconventional kind.

The aim apparently is to reduce gearing to around 50 per cent over the next four years from its present level of about 80 per cent. Allowing for this timescale the fact that the shares look superficially attractive on the basis of a p/e ratio of 6½ is irrelevant.

Lyons has to be judged on its yield and the fact is that there are comparable income stocks to be found in the food sector among companies unaffected by the balance sheet problems which Lyons has to shoulder following its ill-fated attempt to become a major international foods company.

Hambros

New areas of growth

Hambros incurred no exceptional losses on its shipping loans last year; but the group has felt it proper to step up its specific provisions against shipping debts, and with the tanker crisis likely to last until well into the 1980s, we may not have heard the end of that saga.

However, it is necessary to keep the group's involvement in perspective: though Hambros provides no breakdown, shipping loans are unlikely much to exceed 10 per cent of the banking subsidiary's total advances of £531m. Much more pertinent for shareholders is the question of which other areas of operation will provide the group with growth.

It isn't, on the face of it, going to be the traditional banking business, for total advances increased by only 10 per cent last



Mr Jocelyn Hambro, chairman of Hambros: sluggish demand for advances.

moment. The Panel appears happy to take the advice of Rothschilds, sent advisers to Beaverbrook share on what the premium should be, the voting shares up around the 1 there is no doubt that the market on a handsome premium whatever the Panel must avoid, however, is with any scheme simply for the expediency.

1-year of action

A share price has been strong on the view that the trading could be better than indicated in and that the dividend would be paid. Both expectations turn out to be wrong: operating profits, in fact, are third highest at £38.3m though this £4.3m against £14.7m from business sold.

as enough to see the shares 5p yesterday at 95p where the yield is 4%. However, those who see Lyons to hold for recovery on a year to view are missing the real point, course, is that trading profits of satisfactory though they are, are impact on Lyons' balance sheet

rowings of some £240m remain as an adequate reminder of the desirability from which the group has only d to emerge.

charges, reflecting higher rates of the year to April and the switching overseas borrowings into expensive sterling loans, are up to £22.4m. This and exceptional £3.8m above the line and £9.5m mean an overall reduction of serves.

ys it has taken a final bite on the cleared the decks. This year there no exceptional debts—most of 176.77 are due to currency adjust write-offs in South Africa where business turned out to be the last overturned.

r, while foreign debt has now (overseas assets are now in foreign borrowings), sterling looks nd—hopefully for most of this

year—implying something of a setback in real terms—and loan demand continues flat. To some extent, however, this sluggishness has been offset by a big increase in bank financing, with acceptances up by 20 per cent; but potentially more important in terms of profitability has been the bank's expansion into the relatively new areas of Eurocurrency finance—an expansion facilitated by the connexion with Prudential Assurance of America.

That apart it's the traditional areas of operation which are likely to provide the running from now on—not so much the money business, for which there won't be the same opportunities in the more stable conditions which are likely to prevail this year (though Hambros must have a comfortable profit on the £23m of gilts on the books at end-March already under its belt), but investment banking and corporate finance.

Associate Hambro Life can also be expected to make a handsome contribution, but despite the sales which have recently been arranged, the property associate Berkeley Hambro is likely to remain something of a dead letter in investment terms for the foreseeable future: the company is too busy paying off borrowings to have much money or energy to spare for expansion. Hambros looks, nevertheless, to have enough growth to come to lend some attractions to the shares, which at 175p yield 7.2 per cent.

Business Diary: Small is beautiful • BIA's Haslam

hours and a half dual general meeting of the Association of Businessmen yesterday. Young, chairman of the south-west regional council and would-be ever emerged, beaten but

al general meeting journed last month over the validity which Young and his had lodged in a resolution which a change in the organization. This enabled regional and constituency be formed, thus supporters, increasing step and making the far more effective. Diary has followed recent internal work-

to the chagrin of de Laszlo and John Dauris). Unlike her was willing to stand after yesterday as first talk to us about the discussions. However, de Laszlo for his reticence a statement saying that he had raised part of the executive South-west inspired defeated by 506.

The effect of the Laszlo said, would to make regional branches virtually and turn the into a federated executive council has one of those who support for reform from all



Photograph: Bill Warriner

Down but possibly not out: Derek Young yesterday.

parts of the country and believe that the constituency former provides the best base for effective parliamentary lobbying and increasing membership. The south-west regional council is to meet next week, so we may be hearing of Young and Co again.

Reader Trevor Turner saw a life rendered idle by the Otis strike on which was written "Miss Otis regrets". He was tempted to add: "She's unable to lift today."

Surprisingly, Geoffrey Haslam, who today becomes chairman of the British Insurance Association, is the first "Man from the Pru" ever to hold the post.

On the other hand, it cannot just be coincidence that the chief executive of a company which more than any other has spread the benefits of insurance throughout all sections of the population should lead the industry's trade association, at a time when the industry itself is more firmly in the political spotlight than ever before.

Haslam, who succeeds Bill Harris, chief general manager of Phoenix Assurance, sets his big job during the next 12 months to make the public understand more about the work insurance companies do. This, in turn, he believes, might counter the dual threats of nationalization, now Labour Party policy, and governmental direction of policyholders' funds.

"I think that the association will continue to be as effective or ineffective as it has been in the past and it will not develop into the force which it should be in terms of representing the small business. There are 500,000 potential members," he said.

Young and his team claim a very large life office, which has a large contact with the public,

Unanswered questions in the Chiasso affair

The ability to assimilate bad news must rank as one of the more remarkable human qualities. For how else can one explain the enthusiastic applause that greeted a Crédit Suisse shareholder at last Friday's extraordinary general meeting in Zurich as he rounded off his speech with the words "Vive le Crédit Suisse"?

The meeting, which was extraordinary both in name and in nature, was called to discuss the losses arising from the activities of the management of the bank's branch in Chiasso. As is progressing in an overheated exhibition hall in the Zurich suburb of Oerlikon, it was easy to forget that the scandal, which had unfolded over the previous 10 weeks, is the most serious to hit Swiss banking since the Second World War, if not in living memory.

The Crédit Suisse, which is the oldest and prides itself on being the finest of the big three Swiss banks, faces losses which have been estimated at about £100m in Swiss francs (£23m). The affair has brought into question the role of Swiss banks in channelling funds fleeing from other countries, usually in contravention of their regulations.

It has shown Swiss banking's internal and external controls to be inadequate. It has even become a political issue in a fundamentally non-political nation.

The first indication of what Dr Oswald Aeppli, Crédit Suisse's chairman, described last Friday as "the criminal act of a small clique" came in the evening of April 14.

With senses numbed by subsequent revelations it is difficult to recall the shock and surprise caused by the first disclosures. The Crédit Suisse, a by-word for solidity and conservatism in Swiss banking, announced that it faced "a considerable loss" because a large foreign customer of its Chiasso branch—an unnamed financial holding company—was in difficulties.

Afterwards three Chiasso-based lawyers of the company were charged.

The lawyers, Messrs Alfredo Neri, Elio Gada and Alessandro Villa, were members of the board of Texon and had worked for many years from offices in the same building as Crédit Suisse Chiasso, 300 yards from the Swiss-Italian border.

As the affair unfolded and the vast sums of money involved came to light, speculation grew over whether or not the scandal extended beyond the southern Swiss canton of the Tessin. The fact that the three lawyers together with the arrested personnel of Crédit Suisse Chiasso had sat on the boards of other companies in the north Swiss cantons of Zug, Schwyz, Chur, Davos and Glarus threw up the question whether or not Crédit Suisse's Zurich headquarters had been involved, or at least had an inliling of Texon's

activities.

The bank responded at the beginning of May by setting up a special commission of executive board members to investigate "at all levels" in its headquarters and the Chiasso branch.

Against a background of unsettled financial markets, rising anger in the Swiss press and questions before Parliament, the commission moved quickly. It cleared the bank's chairman, Dr Aeppli, but on May 10 the chief general manager, Dr Wulfli, resigned together with Mr Sergio Demievile, one of Crédit Suisse's deputy general managers.

At the same time Mr Felix Schulthess, the former chairman, renounced the title of honorary chairman of the bank conferred on him at its 120th annual general meeting at the end of March this year.

The commission's report, which was presented in an abridged form to shareholders last week, found no criminal link between Zurich and Chiasso. However, Dr Wulfli and Mr Schulthess had failed to act with sufficient resolution in the face of "signals" indicating that something was amiss.

Mr Demievile's departure, it emerged, was less to do with Chiasso than with as yet undefined losses arising from granting excessive loans to a Milan-based company, Molini Certo.

The response of the shareholders to the report and to Dr Aeppli's recoupling of the affair was overwhelmingly positive. It became apparent that the bank's management had no cause to fear opposition from the ranks of the meeting.

The funds were placed with Mr Kührmeier and his associates on a fiduciary basis. Under normal circumstances they would have been invested by the Crédit Suisse or the European Central Bank with first class addresses at the customer's risk.

Instead, Mr Kührmeier not only channelled the funds out-

ward to an unchanged dividend for this year.

Much still to be explained about Texon—starting with the question of who owned it. The banking commission has said that Mr Kührmeier founded it. Dr Aeppli said last week that according to Messrs Naspoli and Nosazzi it belonged to customers of the Chiasso law firm. Their identity remains a mystery.

The motivation behind Mr Kührmeier's actions is quite unclear. Also unanswered are allegations brought by shareholders last week that his activities were the subject of coffee house gossip in Chiasso from the early 1970s.

The fact that the very top management of the Union Bank of Switzerland warned first Dr Wulfli in January, 1976, and then Mr Schulthess in April of that year about Kührmeier is just a possible indicator as to how far the gossip had spread by that time.

The other niggling doubts concern the Molini-Certo affair, which lay behind Mr Demievile's resignation. Yet nobody asked whether there are the seeds of another Chiasso here.

Assuming that there are no further shocks on the way, it is possible to draw up an interim assessment of the implications of the affair for the Crédit Suisse. Because of the drain on its reserves, the bank seems set for a period of slower growth and faces a long slog to re-establish its once unimpeachable reputation.

The sort of thing which the Chancellor is going to want is now fairly clear and it is a much less ambitious shopping list than seemed likely earlier in the year. At Budget time the impression, rightly or wrongly, was that he was searching for a policy similar in form to the present one, with just a little flexibility on top to grease the wheels: now we know that what is going to emerge will be very different.

If it is very lucky the unions will agree to spell out some kind of figure as a guideline of the amount around which settlements should cluster, probably of the order of 5 per cent; if he is not, then there will be some vague undertaking that everyone will act responsibly.

If it happens, the Government will probably feel that it has to step in with the sort of guidelines which the unions have been unable to provide. It will mean, in practice, that the brunt of the policy will have to be borne by pay settlements in the public sector; and that it will be necessary for the Government to get a settlement under its belt which reinforces its claim that the "normal expectation" it has spelled out really is a plausible figure quite easily.

This is what makes the timetable for settlements so vital. As the table shows, they are spread very unevenly throughout the year and are heavily biased towards the end.

There are some tricky cases, such as the police and the nurses, who could prove embarrassing; but the first big crunch comes in the autumn with the local authority manual workers and the health service ancillary employees. (In the private sector the deal that matters is with the Ford workers.)

There is little doubt that the unions will be told that whether or not a figure has been agreed by them it will be applied by the Government in its negotiations.

tions for these public sector employees; and at the same time cash limits will be used to make sure that the settlement is not above the guidelines.

If the settlement for these workers fits into the Government's guidelines, then the prospects for others doing so as well obviously improves. This is all the more so since, if the 12-month rule holds, those who settle later on in the year will in any case come to their negotiations with a longer period of falling inflation since they last got a rise than those who negotiate early in the year.

That will, of course, be even more true if Mr Healey brings in an autumn budget tax cut. If he is true to the term of past Chancellors any action

THE SETTLEMENT TIMETABLE

	Agreements	Contractual	Settlement	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
	number	number	month	month	month	year	month
Aug	150	150	1.5				
Sept	205	455	6.6				
Oct	470	925	9.4				
Dec	1,595	2,000	25.6				
Jan	1,595	2,482	30.2				
Feb	795	5,370	45.4				
March	370	5,740	52.2				
April	650	6,390	64.8				
May	425	6,815	69.2				
June	1,685*	8,500	66.3				
July	1,355*	9,855	100.0				

Calculations based on Department of Employment statistics.

* Based on 1976 figures.

would be concentrated on indirect—as opposed to direct—taxation, so that it would tend to reduce prices, thus giving a further increase to real disposable income without requiring an increase in wages.

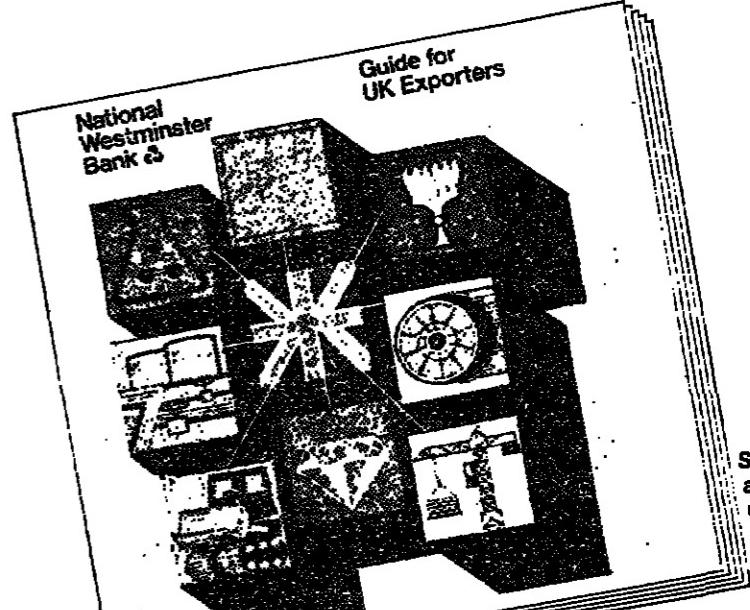
And by April next year the Chancellor might be in a position to bring in another give-away set of measures with the promise of a really sharp increase in living standards.

That is how it might turn out if all goes well, but almost certainly it will not proceed exactly like that. Some people will try to breach the 12-month rule and if they get away with it others will follow. It is interesting, though, that the two exceptions allowed are pensions and productivity agreements, both of which benefit the miners.

Looking at the likely outcome, it is hard to avoid concluding that at the end of the day the cut-back for wages during the next year will be above the Chancellor's 10 per cent target, but probably not wildly above, with something like 15 per cent as the most probable figure.

David Blake

At NatWest, every year is Export Year.



Second and updated edition

National Westminster is no stranger to the vital business of exporting. Our involvement ranges from producing valuable "invisible earnings" through international banking and allied business to providing services to exporters.

Services such as finding markets abroad, assisting with documentation and Exchange Control, protection against foreign exchange losses, advice on payment, export finance, and so on.

These and many others are described in full in the second and updated edition of our booklet "Guide for

ANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

markets

Industrial disputes curb demand

rt, equities continued to rise yesterday and though it was halved the FT another 2.4, to close at 1,153, was already causing concern could draw Britain from the increasing problems of the motor notably a strike notice from workers at Lucas. This feels that funds held back for forthcoming from Sotheby's, is, and Lascos. But it does not give much of this theory on the amount of the money these issues would specifically for se.

premium while profits were also in the oil which ended with a drop of 10p to 925p. Hopes for next week's flotation continued to hit Lascos with a fall of 4p to 327p, but Shell dropped 10p to 370p on the Government's demand for closure of the Brent Field. The building sector BBB Industries, mentioned here, rose 6p to 175p after profits which rose more than 40 per cent and an impressive performance in the generally difficult United Kingdom market. But UBM com-

tinued to react unfavourably to the Equity Bank stake, losing another 1p for a close of 54p.

The threat of a major strike from next week left Lucas 8p off at 2,000 but confirmation of the much talked of maintained dividend from J. Lyons boosted the share by 5p to 35p. Ahead of the week's news, the building sector BBB Industries, mentioned here, rose 6p to 175p after profits which rose more than 40 per cent and an impressive performance in the generally difficult United Kingdom market. But UBM com-

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Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div. pence	Pay date	Year's end
Alden East (F)	49.1(51.8)	0.58(3.2)	0.7(15.2)	3.13(2.73)	—	4.3(3.5)
Allied Plant (F)	4.07(4.164)	0.47(0.28)	0.85(4.0)	0.23(0.37)	—	0.36(0.65)
Bell Gormley (F)	31.8(30.4)	0.76(0.48)	0.45(0.850)	6.0(6.0)	—	8.5(13.5)
Bent Eros (I)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bindfitt-Perrin (I)	7.5(6.4)	0.31(0.37)	—	0.56(0.66)	18.8	(1.5)
BFS Ind (F)	243.2(201.1)	27.1(19.2)	31.7(23.6)	3.42(2.7)	8/8	6.6(2.1)
Ericksen (F)	18.1(16.9)	1.549(1.54)	0.54(3.12)	1.43(1.2)	—	2.1(1.50)
GSS Ridge (I)	6.2(5.0)	0.11(0.08)	1.32(0.96)	0.4(0.25)	—	(1.56)
Hawker Siddeley (F)	12.5(12.0)	0.2(0.15)	0.2(1.5)	0.5(0.5)	—	0.7(1.5)
Courts (F)	47.3(40.0)	4.314(3.8)	1.18(13.1)	5.1(5.1)	—	7.1(12.8)
Ediro (Hgs) (F)	22.7(18.8)	2.41(1.76)	5.77(3.43)	5.77(5.7)	—	5.77(12.3)
Halma (F)	7.9(6.1)	0.56(0.19)	6.07(2.03)	0.68(0.57)	—	1.2(1.1)
Handys & Habs (F)	4.3(3.7)	0.76(0.63)	1.7(1.5)	2.1(1.5*)	—	(6.4)
H. F. Lovell (F)	32.7(27.2)	0.2(0.14)	6.48(9.42)	4.06(2.5)	1/10	6.3(5.5)
J. Lyons (F)	18.4(17.2)	0.48(0.21)	0.6(0.5)	0.6(0.5)	NH(NH)	NH(NH)
Morgan-Grampian (I)	10.3(7.4)	0.29(0.651)	2.2(1.6)	5.7(5.7)	—	7.1(7.1)
MAG Dist. Ltd (I)	—	0.29(0.245)	—	—	11.5(9.9)	11.5(9.9)
Morgan-Grampian (F)	24.4(20.0)	2.1(0.99)	9.9(9.9)	1.46(1.3)	—	2.5(2.3)
News Int (I)	—	—	—	4.0(3.7)	—	(7.3)
Procter & Gamble (F)	0.25(0.12)	0.11(0.01)	67.1(14.51)	—	—	—
Procter & Gamble (F)	0.12(0.12)	0.10(0.10)	—	—	1.75(1.75)	2.50(2.50)
Rutland Grp (I)	0.62(0.58)	0.25(0.021)	—	—	NH(NH)	NH(NH)
Vectis Stone (I)	4.0(3.4)	0.13(0.12)	—	0.6(0.5)	5-8	(1.3)
Dividends in this table are shown net of tax per share. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. Profits are shown pre-tax, and earnings are net. Losses, if 13 months. * Forecast. \$ After tax. ** To reduce disparity.						

tcross set to expand further

start to the current year with new products in each division expected to be provided by Mr Alexander, chairman of the packaging, food & equipment group, which recently record £11m pre-tax over the past five will continue to grow, exander, partly be- dent, daily cash con- productive reinvest- ment was £567,000 in incial year.

"We expect our Scottish and English packaging interests to make a substantial and growing contribution to group profits in the current year," he adds.

In the food division the group has widened its base. Wine and spirit bottling and distribution produced growing profits helped by automation and tight financial control. "Since the year end," says Mr Alexander, "we have acquired the Scottish distribution of the prestigious Williams and Humbert sherry range which includes the brand leader 'Dry Sack'."

CE OF ISSUE
ation has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Stock to be admitted to the Official List:

ABRIDGED PARTICULARS**THE BOURNEMOUTH AND DISTRICT WATER COMPANY**

ly registered in 1864 as the Bournemouth Gas and Water Company Limited under the Companies Act, 1962, as a Statutory Company under The Bournemouth Gas and Water Act, 1973 the name of the Company being changed by The Bournemouth and District Water Act, 1973.

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF £1,000,000

per cent. Redeemable Preference Stock, 1982
(which will mature for redemption at par on 31st July, 1982.)

Minimum Price of Issue—£99 per £100 Stock
g at this price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate, £12.43 per cent.
Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961 paragraph 10 (as amended in its application to the Company) or Part II of the First Schedule thereto. Under that paragraph, the required rate of dividend on the Ordinary Stock of the Company was 4 per cent. but by the Trustees Investments (Water Companies) 1973, such rate was reduced to 2.5 per cent. in relation to dividends paid during any year 1972.

dividends on this Stock will be at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum and no tax will be ed therefrom. Under the imputation tax system, the associated tax credit at the current advance corporation tax £35/65th of the distribution) is equal to a rate of 4.415ths per annum.

fers for the Stock must be made on the Form of Tender supplied with the Prospectus, ist be accompanied by a deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for in a sealed envelope to Deloitte & Co., New Issues Department, P.O. Box 207, 128, Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX marked "Tender for Bournemouth Water Stock"; so received not later than 11 a.m. on Tuesday, 5th June, 1977. The balance of the se money is to be paid on or before Thursday, 28th July, 1977. The terms of the Prospectus, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and of Tender may be obtained from—

Seymour, Pierce & Co.,
10 Old Jewry, London, EC2R 8EA.

Lloyd's Bank Limited,
300 Wallisdown Road, Bournemouth BH11 8PN
rom the offices of the Company, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4JX and Alderney Water Works, Francis Avenue, Bournemouth.

HICKING PENTECOST & Co. Limited**PRELIMINARY FIGURES**

Results for the year ended March 31, 1977:

	1977 £	1976 £
before interest and taxation	8,438,223	7,232,076
net profit	471,321	445,855
dividends	50,791	35,779
retained profits	211,275	209,727
plus 23p (1976: 2p)	55,684	42,529
reduced final 4.081p (1976: 3.5486p)	104,125	75,460
earnings per 50p Stock Unit	162,809	117,989
	8.84p	9.42p

proved profits in both manufacturing divisions.
dividend increased by 15% (approved by H.M. Treasury) and payable on total stock of the Company as increased by the successful placing of 1,000 Stock Units on 9th September 1976.

General Meeting Thursday 8th September 1977.

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The threat of a major strike from next week left Lucas 8p off at 2,000 but confirmation of the much talked of maintained dividend from J. Lyons boosted the share by 5p to 35p. Ahead of the week's news, the building sector BBB Industries, mentioned here, rose 6p to 175p after profits which rose more than 40 per cent and an impressive performance in the generally difficult United Kingdom market. But UBM com-

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Pegler Hattersley

1977 - A record year"

- Sales increased by 17% to £80.2m—30% of sales came from overseas.
- Profit before tax increased to £18.2m.
- Associated companies made a substantially increased contribution to group results. Divisional trading profits were marginally lower—earnings from building products improved but those of the engineering and valve division did not match last year's high level.
- Earnings per share increased

from 25.3p to 29.9p and the group maintained its strong financial position.

"We have had a record year in which benefits came from the increase in our international activities, and I anticipate further progress will be made in the future. At present there is a weakness in some of our traditional markets where recovery may be slow, but we are well placed to take advantage of any favourable situation which arises."

RESULTS FOR 1977

	1977 £000	1976 £000
Profit before metal stock appreciation	17,205	14,337
Profit before tax	18,155	14,437
Profit after tax	8,767	7,031
Earnings per share	29.9p	25.3p
Dividend per share (gross)	10.586p	9.625p



Copies of the full report and accounts are available from The Secretary, Pegler-Hattersley Limited, St. Catherine's Avenue, Doncaster DN2 8DF.

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"Trading figures for the first quarter of the current year are ahead of expectations"

LIONEL L. LEIGHTON, Chairman at the AGM 29th June, 1977

Highlights from the Chairman's Statement for the year ended 31st January, 1977.

- A record trading year for the Group.
- Profit of £3.181m. is in excess of twice that of last year.
- Turnover increased by 20.9% to £48.227m.
- Exports up by 38.2%.
- The dividend which is 21% higher than last year is covered 6.7 times.
- We are currently examining the possibility of establishing a European trading centre.
- The Board can see a further significant increase in profits in the current year.

A COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT 1977 MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY, 74/80 CAMDEN STREET, LONDON NW1 0EL

'Our five-year annual average growth rate is over 30% compound. Scotcros will continue to grow.'

Mr. W. R. Alexander, Chairman

Year ended 31 March	1977 £,000	1976 £,000	1975 £,000	1974 £,000	1973 £,000
Sales	20,099	12,770*	11,161*	9,815*	5,497*
Profit before taxation	1,182	731	600	521	280
Earnings per ordinary share	9.2p	6.5p	5.0p	4.2p	3.7p

*These figures have been adjusted for sales of subsidiary companies, either sold or wound up, during the five-year period.

A copy of the report and accounts may be obtained from:

The Secretary, Scotcros Limited, Fitzpatrick House, Cadogan Street, Glasgow G2 6QR

SCOTCROS

Packaging • Food and drink • Transport equipment

FINANCIAL NEWS

Edgar Allen convinced that worst is over

By Ray Maughan

Down from £3.22m to £285,000 pre-tax in the year to April 2 last, Edgar Allen, Balfour is convinced that the worst is over. The damage was caused mostly by the closure of Balfour Darwells Capital tool works factory which precipitated a strike by over 2,000 employees for 10 weeks.

The surgery was drastic, for although the plant had been losing about £60,000 annually over the previous four years, the dispute is estimated to have cost about £2m in lost profits. Terminal losses of £208,000 incurred up to the date of closure on January 28 last have been excluded from the published pre-tax profits.

But chairman Mr John Oakley believes that Balfour Darwells will reward the net £1.8m paid for its acquisition in the spring of 1975. Balfour's steel operations are earning profits, the casting activities turned round at the end of the year, and the magnet manufacturing subsidiary returned to the black last October.

The steel and engineering group as a whole, the directors forecast, should exceed the £2.3m pre-tax profit attained in 1975-76. Optimism is based on an improving order book—up at £2.2m at end-May last against £20.5m at the half-year and £18.5m a year ago—spread across the board.

Capital spending will be maintained at around last year's level of £2.5m and hopes are pinned on improved exports—barely improved last year at £9.1m as a result of the strike particularly in the United States and the Far East.

The dispute, however, has left its mark on the balance sheet and United Kingdom liquidity deteriorated by about £2.5m during the year. But after the release of £4.88m deferred tax, the group's gearing is an "acceptable" 51 per cent, or 62 per cent before the recommendations contained in ED19.

The board is confident that borrowing facilities are more than adequate for future plans and contingencies and, for the foreseeable future, a rights issue or some form of fresh equity funding are emphatically ruled out.

If Edgar Allen, Balfour can recover all the ground lost last year, a return to profits of over £3m pre-tax indicates a pre-tax earnings ratio of just over 4. The shares climbed 5p to 67p yesterday and the market received further reassurance by the decision to pay the maximum permitted dividend of 5.27p gross per share, down from the total for the year to £0.50p gross compared with 9.54p the year before. A third interim dividend of 0.105p will share.

With its low current consumption of plasterboard by comparison, for example, with the UK, France is seen as a major growth area for BPB as plasterboard disputes wet plastering on a large scale.

Despite the extremely low level of housing starts in the UK, the group's buildings products did well in the home market with profits increasing from £10.7m to £13.5m while paper and packaging profits in the home market increased from £4.16m to £6.71m.

A second interim dividend of 5.27p gross has been declared for the year to £0.50p gross per share from stated earnings of only 0.2p per share.

be paid if the Government reduces the basic income tax rate to 33 per cent.

The shares rose 6p to 175p yesterday to yield 6 per cent and to sell at 5.5 times earnings of 31.7p a share.

Although standing at their 1976/1977 high, the shares are attractive long term on the basis of an anticipated pick-up in the housing starts, as well as the growth potential offered in Europe generally and France in particular, even if the group is not looking for such a higher percentage profits increase this year.

A final dividend of 6.28474p raises the annual total by 15 per cent to £2.6746p. Treasury permission has been obtained.

Peak profit at Morgan-Grampian as UK sales reach record levels

By Alison Mitchell

Proving that it has travelled back along the road to recovery, publisher Morgan-Grampian unwrapped record profits for the year to March 31 last.

On sales which soared to a peak £24.500,000 from £20,100,000, pre-tax profits rose from £995,000 to break the £2m barrier for the first time at £2,120,000.

This was in fact slightly down on the £2,200,000 pre-tax budgeted for by Morgan-Grampian's directors at the beginning of the year, but it pleased the market well enough and the initial reaction was to mark up shares 5p to 109p.

The biggest money-earner in the United Kingdom was Morgan-Grampian Business Press, with almost all its magazines increasing market share. The consumer press division, which since January 1 has taken in the profits from newly-acquired Music Week, made "great strides" in the period.

Rationalization of the book publishing company, putting

all directorships into one unit, gives this side of the business its first successful year. And new chairman Mr. Graham Sherriff revealed that it is all set for further development.

The Joker in the pack continues to be the American subsidiary David McKay. A hard winter and the presidential election kept growth slow, but a return to profitability is in sight, said the chairman.

For the past two years the company has been concentrating on do-it-yourself and reference books such as the Fodor Travel Guides. The results should begin to show through in the current year.

The college division, now visible at its present size, it is to be sold to Longman for around £500,000 (about £470,000). But taking the American side in total—including the magazine division—the off-cut turned a £15,000 loss into a £134,000 profit.

The future at home looks bright, with a number of new magazines contributing to profits for the first time this year.

In May, Morgan launched the *Weight Watchers Magazine* for slimmers as well as taking over the publishing of the medical journal *The Practitioner* from Pearson Longman.

And in the autumn a product catalogue for farmers, *What's New in Farming*, is to be started up.

The opportunity for growth is substantial by maximizing the profits of our established magazines, by acquisition and by launching new magazines," said Mr. Sherriff.

There is a second interim dividend of 5.84 per cent making an annual total of 10.45 per cent, and the promise of a 9 per cent to 7.5 per cent turnover up from £40m to £47.3m.

This rise is not reflected in the pre-tax level, which shows a profit of £4.87m, against £4.84m, because £3.1m has been transferred to deferred profits.

Shareholders are to collect a dividend of 4.8p gross, compared with 4.38p last year, while earnings a share are 14.8p against 13.1p.

The board says that these record results reflect increased trading profits in both the United Kingdom and overseas, although the rate of increase was lower in the second half of the year. This period showed a slight fall in pre-tax profits from £2.85m to £2.81m.

Commenting on the steep rise in transfers to deferred profit, Mr. E. G. Cohen, the chairman, says that total deferred profits now amount to £11.3m and will flow into profits in future years.

During the past year new stores have been opened in Sittingbourne, Worthing, Colchester and Hanley, and so far in the current year at Irwell, Clapham Junction in London, and Toowoomba, Australia.

In the interim statement, Mr. Cohen explained that the large increase in transfers to deferred profit—in this case £1.5m compared with £2.28m—reflected growth in the credit business during 1976 following the fitting of new finance controls in December 1975.

Another factor here was the continued progress of the overseas subsidiaries. At this time, the accumulated deferred profit stood at more than £9.4m.

At this time, no account was taken of exchange rate fluctuations, but the full year's results show that these amounted to £227,000 against £476,000, after allowing for property provisions.

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After a period of short-time working in February and March, the group is back on full production in all but two minor areas.

Earnings per share last year were up from 17.5p to 24.11p and a final dividend of 5.81p gross increases the total by 15 per cent to 5.61p. The payment is more than four times covered.

Margins dip at Hicking Pentecost

Hicking Pentecost, the textile and dying group, show a slight increase in pre-tax profit, from £410,000 to £420,500 for the year to March 31 last.

Cost increases resulting from the dramatic inflation of 1974 have not been fully passed on to readers and advertisers and this should lead to "substantial profit growth" in advertising pages.

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Kansallis-Osake offer

Kansallis-Osake-Pankki, Finland's largest construction holding, to offer on July 7, 500,000 shares of 100 per cent voting rights notes through a syndicate led by the European Banking company.

The notes are expected to be priced at par and bear semi-annual interest at the higher of either 6.5 per cent or 0.25 points above prevailing six-month interbank Eurodollar rates.

Magneti narrows loss

Fabbrica Italiana Magneti Marelli SpA, the electrical components group controlled by Fiat SpA, has cut its 1976 loss to

1,100m lire (about £73.3m) from 1975's loss of 3,200m lire.

Sales volume rose to 208,700m lire from 174,000 lire. The company says it will increase registered capital to 36,000m lire from 9,000m lire. Of the increase, 9,000m lire would be through the free issue of 15 million shares at par 600 lire.

The other 18,000m lire would be through issuance, against payment, of 15 million ordinary and 15 million preferred shares, also at par 600 lire. It was not immediately known if Fiat would underwrite the new issues.

Brown & Root offer

Brown & Root, the engineering and construction group, to offer

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Stock Exchange Prices **Subdued session**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 27. Dealings End, July 8. Contango Day, July 11. Settlement Day, July 19.

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Please send full personal details with photograph to The Bursar, Aiglon College, 1800 Cheseaux-Villars, Switzerland. Interviews will be held in London in mid-July.

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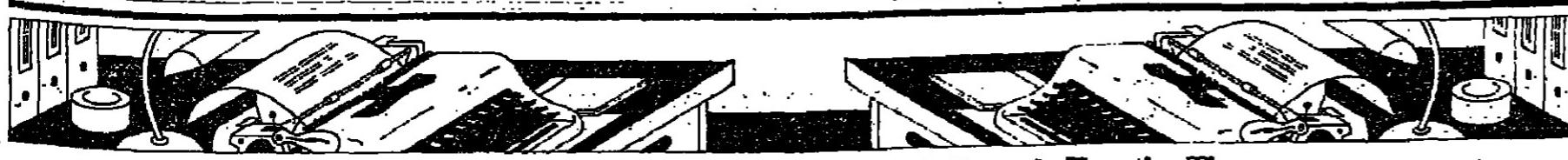
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Motoring

Makers see a bright future for diesel

he price advantage enjoyed by diesel fuel over petrol, which not so long ago was as much as 18p a gallon, is now almost too small to be significant and is likely to disappear entirely when the 5p duty comes off petrol at the beginning of August.

With diesel cars using about 30 per cent less fuel than those with petrol engines, it might have been thought that as part of its energy-saving campaign the Government would have been sure that diesel remained at the top of the list.

But successive changes in duty, together with the Liberal Party's success in opposition to the 5p duty imposed in the Budget, mean that from August level may become decisive.

It is hardly the way to encourage sales of diesel cars, though the Government may consider that in Britain they are too small to be worth encouraging.

On that point, figures supplied by Peugeot, one of Europe's principal diesel car manufacturers, show that while British diesel sales rose eight-fold between 1974 and 1976 the total sales of only 30,000 units. That compares with 33,000 bought in Germany, 30,000 in France and 30,000 in Italy.

From the same source, information on about the cost of diesel fuel, apart from Britain and Germany, where the prices are nearly the same, shows that in France, for example, the advantage is especially in diesel's favour. Thus in a certain diesel costs only 63 per cent as much as four-star petrol, in France 59 per cent, in The Netherlands 50 per cent, and in Italy only 29 per cent.

It is possible that the European Community may try to get some standardization of diesel prices, which might mean Britain and Germany having to fall more into line with other countries. But whether that happens or not, the car manufacturers, at least, are convinced that diesel has a bright future.

That is why established diesel producers, like Mercedes-Benz, Opel and Daimler-Benz, have all been increasing their input; why Citroen, Volkswagen and IFA Romeo have recently entered the diesel market for the first time; and why Ford and Leyland may launch diesel cars in Britain before the year is out.

Apart from better fuel economy, particularly in town (the reason why cars usually have diesel engines) the main advantages of diesel are less wear to the engine and fewer parts to maintain. There is no distributor, oil, plugs, points or carburettor. And though they may not always look it, diesel engines are much "cleaner" (that is, less toxic) than those of a petrol engine.

The principal disadvantages have to do with the engine costs more to make, which can add substantially to the price of the car; that a diesel engine produces less acceleration and lower top speed in relation to cubic capacity; and that it is noisy.

To discuss those pros and cons I think it best to take a concrete example and I have recently been driving one of the latest diesel models to me on the British market, the 2.3 litre Peugeot 504 GL. The car was previously available with a 1.984cc diesel unit, which continues.

To take price first: the GL diesel starts £4,741, or £614 more than the comparable petrol-engine model. So if diesel fuel costing about the same as petrol, the owner must do a very high mileage to get that £614 back, even



Rolls-Royce Phantom I, one of the exhibits in the Stratford Motor Museum.

allowing for the likelihood there is no house. He acquired it and an adjoining school, spent nine months on conversion work, and opened as the Stratford Motor Museum in October, 1974.

There is room for some 25 cars—a quarter are changed each year—and the same number of motor cycles. But yield of a Mini, a Mini's engine, developing a two-litre.

But with the horsepower, performance 70 bhp) of the Mini's as well. In

the appeal of the museum goes far beyond the vehicles. As Mr Meredith-Owens explains: "My first idea was simply a shed full of cars. But it must have been a disaster because most of the people who come in here are not dedicated car enthusiasts. They want a pleasant atmosphere and this is what I have tried to provide."

So far, the museum has won with old advertisements, road signs and car badges. In one corner of the museum he has painstakingly re-created an entire garage of the 1920s and he emphasizes that the visitor can walk round it instead of being shut out behind a rope. There is a picture gallery, and, on the way out, a fine selection of motorizing books and souvenirs (products from which are an important contribution to the museum's running costs).

Open seven days a week, the museum has so far attracted some 150,000 visitors. Naturally Mr Meredith-Owens would like more but he admits that being in Stratford can be a mixed blessing. Whole tourists descend on the town by the coachload, few stay longer than the half-hour it takes to go to the Shakespeare sights before being whisked off to Warwick or Kenilworth.

At least the museum should not be short of exhibits, for hardly a day goes without someone offering Mr Meredith-Owens an old car. Unfortunately, and inevitably, few are suitable, and he has had to develop the right technique for explaining to a would-be donor as politely as possible that a Standard Vanguard is not quite the sort of thing he is after.

Cars-on-Avon

I went to Stratford-on-Avon the other day, in pursuit of Mr Meredith-Owens' motor of Mr Bill and it is number one in my mind. I Street, just round the corner from the Birthplace, in an converted Methodist Chapel; and it is the person of hours it old cars little about cars, who knows an Owens, as Welsh as Wales.

Mr Meredith is a former seving his name in manufacturer and amateur machine man, who began collecting cars really driver his main interest is in the hobby. The 1920s and 1930s, the exotic cars cards as motorcars' golden period. "It's because", he says, "it's a most enjoyable couple chapel; and it is the person of hours it old cars little about cars, who knows an Owens, as Welsh as Wales.

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Television driving

The small screen has been blamed for many things but, as far as I am aware, for encouraging people to drive badly. Until now, that is, for the Automobile Association magazine, *Drive*, in current issue, reports Supt Ian Cameron, of Strathclyde police, advocates greater control of the content of driving sequences on television, with more emphasis on the good and less on the bad.

The question is whether, having seen a fictional police car tear round a bend at 70 mph and get into a spectacular skid from which, miraculously, it extricates itself, the ordinary motorist is tempted to go out and do the same thing. Personally I find these car chases extremely boring, and with script writers would find more inventive ways of filling up the time; and I cannot think they influence my driving. But I see Mr Cameron's point.

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